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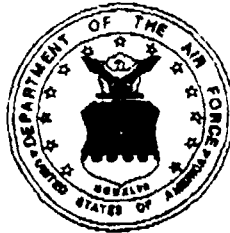


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## PREFACE

The President has directed that the Air Force deploy the Peacekeeper missile system at a location near F.E. Warren Air Force Base (hereafter F.E. Warren AFB), close to Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Peacekeeper system (formerly known as the M-X system) is an advanced, land-based intercontinental ballistic missile. The plan calls for the replacement of 100 existing Minuteman III missiles with 100 Peacekeeper missiles. Existing missile silos will be used, and there will be very little structural modification needed. Missile replacement will occur within the two squadrons (of 50 missiles each) located nearest F.E. Warren AFB, the 319th and 400th Strategic Missile Squadrons. Peacekeeper deployment will occur between 1984 and 1989.

An environmental impact statement (EIS) was prepared for the Proposed Action as outlined above. Information contained in the EIS is based upon environmental information and analysis developed and reported in a series of 13 final environmental planning technical reports (EPTRs). This volume is one of those reports. The 13 resource areas are:

- o Socioeconomics (employment demand, housing, public finance, construction resources, and social well-being);
- o Public Services and Facilities;
- o Utilities;
- o Energy Resources;
- o Transportation;
- o Land Use (land use, recreation, and visual resources);
- o Cultural and Paleontological Resources;
- o Water Resources;
- o Biological Resources;
- o Geologic Resources;
- o Noise;
- o Air Quality;
- o Jurisdictional.

This document is Volume 2 of the four volume Jurisdictional Environmental Planning Technical Report.



# FINAL JURISDICTIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING TECHNICAL REPORT

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6.0

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**ALBANY COUNTY  
WYOMING**

## **6.0      SOCIAL PROFILE AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR ALBANY COUNTY, WYOMING**

As a result of refinements to the population allocation model, no immigration is predicted to occur in Albany County. However, a number of recreation areas in Albany County, including portions of Medicine Bow National Forest, are expected to be used by the project-related immigrant population; therefore Albany County was included in the recreation analysis and the fish and game law enforcement analysis found in Chapter 10.

7.0

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**KIMBALL COUNTY  
NEBRASKA**

## **7.0        SOCIAL PROFILE AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR             KIMBALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA JURISDICTIONS**

The 1980 population of Kimball County is reported by the Census Bureau as 4,882. By 1992, without the project, this population is expected to fall to 4,800. Peak immigration to Kimball County caused by the project is expected to occur in 1989, when 300 additional people are projected to reside in the county.

Principal project-related impacts will occur in the areas of education and transportation. Two additional teachers will be needed in 1988 and four more, totaling six additional teachers over baseline, will be needed in 1989. Traffic impacts in the form of reductions in levels of service will occur in the peak construction year of 1989, especially during harvest time. Additional transportation impacts will be associated with road improvements construction and additional road maintenance.

### **7.1        Kimball County Government**

#### **7.1.1     General Government**

##### **7.1.1.1   Baseline Description**

###### **7.1.1.1.1   Organization and Administration**

Kimball County government is administered by the County Board of Commissioners and other elected officials. The present Board consists of 3 Commissioners elected at large to 4-year terms. Commission meetings are held twice per month (on the first and third Mondays) and are generally 8 hours in duration. In addition to these meetings, it is estimated that the Commissioners each spend, on the average, an additional 20 hours per month on county-related business. Commissioner compensation was recently raised to \$7,000 per year per member.

In addition to the Commissioners there are also several elected officials in Kimball County government. The County Clerk, Registrar of Deeds, and Clerk of the District Court is a combined office; the Treasurer, Assessor, Sheriff, County Attorney, Surveyor, and two judges are also elected. In addition to these elected officials, the Highway Superintendent, Weed Superintendent, and Civil Defense Director are appointed. Table 7.1.1-1 lists active County boards and other agencies in which the County participates.

The existing organization for Kimball County government has, with two exceptions, remained constant for some time. The two substantive changes have been the creation of the position of Civil Defense Director and the elimination of Welfare Department employees as a County responsibility as of July 1, 1983. Table 7.1.1-2 lists Kimball County government offices and departments.

###### **7.1.1.1.2   Staffing**

With the exception of the transfer on July 1, 1983 of four administrative employees to state payroll, Kimball County government employment has remained relatively constant over the past 20 years. Present staffing is 51 persons; in 1963 Kimball County employed 50 persons. Barring major changes in funding,

Table 7.1.1-1

KIMBALL COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS,  
COMMITTEES, AND COUNCILS - 1983.

Board of Commissioners  
Veterans Service Committee  
City-County Airport Zoning Board<sup>1</sup>  
Highway Advisory Board  
Weed Control Board  
Board of Health  
Parks and Recreation Board<sup>1</sup>  
Panhandle Community Mental Health Center<sup>2</sup>  
Panhandle Resource Council<sup>2</sup>  
Aging Office of Western Nebraska<sup>2</sup>  
Community Action Agency<sup>2</sup>  
Region I, Office of Mental Retardation<sup>2</sup>  
Natural Resource District<sup>2</sup>  
South Platte Natural Resource Council  
Building and Ground Committee

Notes: 1 Joint City/County.

2 Participant.

Source: Deputy County Clerk Kimball County, July 7, 1983 and minutes  
of Statutory Board meeting of January 11, 1983.

Table 7.1.1-2

KIMBALL COUNTY  
DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES - 1983

Board of Commissioners  
Clerk of the District Court  
County Clerk/Register of Deeds  
County Treasurer  
County Assessor  
Sheriff  
County Attorney  
Custodian  
Civil Defense  
Weed Control  
Veterans Service Office  
Senior Handi-Bus  
County Surveyor  
Highway Department  
County Superintendent of Schools

Source: Deputy County Clerk for Kimball County, July 7, 1983

no changes in employment are foreseen in the future. Table 7.1.1-3 gives 1983 Kimball County government employment by office and department. For the most part, Kimball County has done very well in retaining key administrative personnel. Key department and administrative heads are highly experienced and skilled at their present positions.

#### 7.1.1.1.3 Capital Facilities

Capital facilities for general government in Kimball County consist mainly of the County Courthouse and County shops. The courthouse consists of 19,500 square feet, of which approximately 10,500 square feet are devoted to general government. Administrative space is considered adequate to meet existing and near-term County needs. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on the Kimball County Courthouse. County shop space is located in three locations (Kimball, Dix, and Bushnell) and is considered adequate to meet existing needs.

#### 7.1.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

Capital equipment owned by Kimball County is weighted heavily towards vehicles and equipment used by the Kimball County Highway Department for road and bridge maintenance. Of the 65 units listed, nearly all are considered to be in good condition with only 1 unit (a tractor mower) in poor condition and 1 unit (a new loader) in excellent condition. The equipment inventory includes 13 trucks and trailers, 5 pickups and vans, 33 pieces of heavy equipment, and 14 snow plows. Appendix E presents a selected inventory of major capital equipment.

### 7.1.1.2 Projected Baseline

#### 7.1.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

Under projected baseline, the population of Kimball County is expected to drop slightly over the analysis period. No organizational or administrative changes in Kimball County government over the analysis period are foreseen.

#### 7.1.1.2.2 Staffing

Due to projected relative stability in population and revenues for Kimball County, no changes in staffing for Kimball County are foreseen under projected baseline for 1983 through 1992.

#### 7.1.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

No major changes in the capital facilities inventory for Kimball County are predicted under projected baseline over the analysis period between 1983 and 1992. Relatively stable revenues and population and no viable capital facility expansion plans presently exist.

#### 7.1.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

Since much of the Kimball County capital equipment inventory is utilized for road and bridge maintenance, and since no major changes in road and bridge maintenance or capital for equipment acquisition are foreseen, no major

Table 7.1.1-3

KIMBALL COUNTY STAFFING  
BY DEPARTMENT - 1983

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number of Permanent Employees</u>
County Commissioners	3
County Clerk	5
Clerk of the District Court	1
County Treasurer	5
County Assessor	5
Sheriff	6
Highway Department	14
County Attorney	2
Custodian	2
Civil Defense	1
Weed	2
Veterans Services Office	1
Senior Handi-Bus	3
Surveyor	1
TOTAL:	51

Source: Kimball County Commissioners Record Book Number 8.



changes in capital equipment replacement policy or capital equipment inventory are projected for Kimball County during 1983 through 1992 under projected baseline.

#### 7.1.1.3 Project Impacts

##### 7.1.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

Population increases due to the project are projected to occur only in 1987 (75 weekly commuters), 1988 (75 persons) and 1989 (300 persons). The effect of these increases is to replace population lost in years prior. No changes in organization or administration are likely to result from the project.

##### 7.1.1.3.2 Staffing

Based on the 1983 population and staffing levels of 4,860 population and 51 total staff persons, an increase of 75 persons in 1988 would result in an increased demand for staff of less than 1 person. In 1989, the projected 300-person population increase result in a demand for slightly more than 3 persons. However, since present staffing levels were maintained during periods of considerably larger population in Kimball County, no increases in general government staffing are likely to occur as a result of the project.

##### 7.1.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

No changes in capital facilities are expected to result from the project. Based on staffing demand projections and a ratio of 125 square feet per staff person, the project would result in a demand for 125 square feet in 1988 and 375 square feet in 1989.

##### 7.1.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

With the exception of road maintenance equipment, Kimball County government would experience only slight increases in equipment usage due to the project. Road maintenance equipment requirements are addressed in Appendix A.7.2.

#### 7.1.1.4 Mitigative Measures

The following mitigative measures for impacts on Kimball County general government are offered for consideration:

- o In order to prevent degradation of gravel roadways maintained by the County and affected by silo refurbishing, the County could add a temporary full-time equipment operator in late 1985 and maintain that position through 1986. If an experienced operator is not available, the County would need to hire a person 1 year earlier and training would need to be provided, both outside and in-house. Equipment could be leased or purchased through a supplier in Cheyenne. Maintenance could be performed by the County or by private contract with a local business.
- o Develop a mechanism to provide additional financial resources to public services that experience unanticipated impacts. This

mitigation measure could be effective in alleviating those additional impacts that may occur to specific public services or agencies that may not have been planned for prior to project construction. If selected, this agency should be established in 1984 prior to project-related immigration. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation is Kimball County.

- o Institute a monitoring program to determine those agencies whose capacity has been exceeded by the impact population as well as those unmet needs that, left unmet, will lead to major problems in the community's well-being. This program should be implemented in early 1984 to allow the community to better coordinate its impact planning efforts and to better utilize funding for impact mitigation purposes. Monitoring will allow the community to be more efficient in its handling of these impacts. The responsible agencies for implementing this mitigation measure are the local public service agencies.

#### **7.1.2     Law Enforcement**

##### **7.1.2.1   Baseline Description**

The Kimball County Sheriff's Department is located in the County Courthouse in Kimball. The Department has three sworn officers, the Sheriff and two deputies. In addition, the Department has four reserve deputies, one of whom is used on most weekends for additional patrol. Civilian support staff consist of one part-time and four full-time dispatchers/jailers. The salary for deputy sheriffs starts at \$1,020 per month while the civilian staff positions all start at \$4.34 per hour.

The Department has two marked patrol cars. The cars last 3 years or about 70,000 miles. A new patrol car is purchased about every other year at a current cost of approximately \$10,000.

The Sheriff's Department offices contain 960 square feet divided into two offices, a booking area, reception area, dispatch room, and kitchen. The jail, which opens off the booking room, has one eight-man cell, a second cell for an eating area, another common area, and a separate cell for solitary confinement. The jail has an average daily population of three. This includes prisoners brought in by the City Police Department, as the Sheriff's Department houses city prisoners as well. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on these facilities.

Dispatching for the City Police Department is handled by the Kimball County Sheriff's Department from 5:00 PM until 8:00 AM and all day on weekends.

##### **7.1.2.2   Projected Baseline**

Under projected baseline conditions, Kimball County is expected to decline in population from 4,850 in 1983 to 4,800 in 1992. This is not projected to require any adjustments in the staff, vehicles, or facility space of the Kimball County Sheriff's Department, and no changes from 1983 levels are forecast under the projected baseline.

#### 7.1.2.3 Project Impacts

With the project, Kimball County population is projected to increase 6.2 percent over baseline in 1989, lasting only 1 year. Because of its short duration and modest size (300 persons), this population increase should be adequately handled by the existing staff of the Sheriff's Department, possibly requiring somewhat more frequent use of a reserve officer on weekends. Consequently, no additional staff, vehicles, or facility space over baseline needs are projected for the Kimball County Sheriff's Department under project impacts.

#### 7.1.2.4 Mitigative Measures

The level of project impacts described in the preceding section is minor and will require no mitigative measures.

### 7.1.3 Justice System - County Court and County District Court

#### 7.1.3.1 Baseline Description

In 1972, the Nebraska State Legislature drastically revamped the structure of the State's criminal justice system. Among other major changes, justice of the peace and police magistrate courts were abolished and their functions were merged into the county system. Thereafter, within all rural counties, the criminal caseload has been divided between a county court and a county district court. Outside of Omaha and Lincoln, there are no municipal courts; violations of municipal ordinances are now originally processed in the county courts. Each of Nebraska's 93 counties is assigned to 1 of the 21 judicial districts designated by State statute. Kimball County lies within the Nineteenth Judicial District and its courts are located in the city of Kimball, the county seat.

##### 7.1.3.1.1 Kimball County Court

The Kimball County Court has jurisdiction over misdemeanors, city and village ordinance violations, juvenile matters, and felony preliminary hearings.

Kimball County Court caseload has shown a downward trend over recent years. Available statistics are shown in Table 7.1.3-1. Notably, more than 97 percent of all cases are disposed of before trial.

The County Court is staffed by a court clerk, a deputy clerk, and two clericals (one full time and one part time). The Court Clerk, who also serves as Associate County Judge, is paid by the State for her judicial and clerical duties. The rest of the clerical staff is paid by the County.

The Kimball County Attorney handles criminal matters in the County Court as well as the County District Court. The County Attorney's staff includes the County Attorney, one deputy county attorney, and one full-time clerical employee.

Facilities for the County Court are housed in three-story County Courthouse building. Floor space allocated for the County Courtroom is approximately 1,500 square feet, with another 500 square feet allocated for the judicial and

clerical offices. Appendix D of the Jurisdictional EPTR provides further data on the Kimball County Courthouse. The County Attorney has a 500 square foot office on the first floor, in addition to his private office space located about one-half block from the courthouse building. There is no public defender for Kimball County.

Table 7.1.3-1

SUMMARY OF CASELOAD STATISTICS FOR KIMBALL COUNTY COURT  
(1980-1983)

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u> <u>(6 mo.)</u>
Total Cases Filed	1,030	1,048	902	485
Total Cases Disposed	1,154	1,008	975	466
Total Court Trials	15	26	21	17
Total Jury Trials	0	0	1	0

Felony Cases Filed 66 (1.9% of total cases filed)  
(January 1980 - June 1983)

Percent of cases disposed of prior to trial - 97.4%  
(January 1980-June 1983)

Source: Clerk of the Kimball County Court.

The present staff and facilities of the County Court are sufficient for the present caseload. File storage has reached the point where a new, more efficient system must be implemented to fully utilize available space. Microfilming of file documents is now a fairly standard procedure.

Furthermore, though there are currently no computers in use, storage of Uniform Commercial Code cases in a statewide computer network has been ordered for 1985 by the State Legislature.

7.1.3.1.2 Kimball County District Court

Jurisdiction of the County District Court covers all felony cases, and appeals from county and municipal courts.

The trend in the criminal caseload for the Kimball County District Court has also been a gradually decreasing one. Available statistics are shown in Table 7.1.3-2.

The personnel in the County District Court consist of one district court judge, a full-time clerk, a full-time deputy clerk, and a part-time court reporter. In addition to his Kimball County duties, the judge also handles the District Court docket in Banner County. The clerk of the district court also serves as county clerk.

Table 7.1.3-2

SUMMARY OF CASELOAD STATISTICS FOR  
KIMBALL COUNTY DISTRICT COURT  
(1980-1982)

	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Total Cased Filed	8	11	4
Total Cases Disposed	18	22	7

Source: Clerk of the Kimball County District Court.

Facilities for the County District Court are housed in the County Courthouse. The District Court Clerk's office occupies about 1,000 square feet on the second floor. The District courtroom has approximately 5,000 square feet, with an additional 800 square feet for the judge's chambers and 300 square feet for the deputy clerk and reporter.

The present staff and facilities of the County District Court are adequate for the present caseload. File storage has reached the point where a new, more efficient system must be implemented to fully utilize available space.

7.1.3.2 Projected Baseline

In light of the decline in the criminal caseload in the Kimball County courts during the past few years, as well as the projection of population decreases for each year through 1992, it is anticipated that those years will see a stable or declining pattern in the criminal docket. These are, however, two qualifiers that need to be addressed. First, crime in Kimball County is heavily attributable to its youth. Population projections show a decreasing proportion of young people in this county over the next 12 years. If the opposite occurs, the crime rate may show a corresponding increase. Second, the once prosperous energy business in the region has fallen off in recent years. However, there has been some recent rejuvenation, and the low criminal caseloads of the past few years may give way to some increases.

7.1.3.3 Project Impacts

In view of the relatively light immigration projected for Kimball County as a result of the project, little if any impact on the criminal justice system is anticipated. The system could certainly manage a caseload somewhat larger than its level in recent years and a slight increase in the crime rate, if one materializes at all, would be easily absorbed by current excess capacity.

7.1.3.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no mitigative measures required or planned for the Kimball County criminal justice system.

#### **7.1.4     Recreational Facilities**

Recreational facilities in Kimball County are described under the City of Kimball (Section 7.2.8) and Regional Recreation (Section 10.1).

#### **7.2        City of Kimball**

##### **7.2.1     General Government**

##### **7.2.1.1   Baseline Description**

###### **7.2.1.1.1   Organization and Administration**

The City of Kimball, incorporated in 1895, presently has a mayor-council form of government. The Mayor is elected by popular vote to a 4-year term. Current compensation for this part-time position is \$1,200 per year. The City also employs a City Administrator who has served since 1958 and as City Engineer since 1955.

Council members are elected at large to staggered 4-year terms. Council tenure currently averages about 4 years per member. A Council meeting is held every 2 weeks. Present Council compensation is \$800 per year for the President of the Council and \$600 per year for each of the other 3 members.

The City of Kimball's government organization is shown in Tables 7.2.1-1 and 7.2.1-2. As can be seen, the Board of Public Works oversees the activities of the City's municipal utility departments. Active boards and commissions are listed in Table 7.2.1-2. No major changes in organization have been made in the recent past and no major changes are foreseen at this time.

###### **7.2.1.1.2   Staffing**

Although seasonal employment by the City of Kimball results in as many as 55 employees or more in the summer, permanent employment is steady at 39 employees. This staffing level has been steady for a considerable length of time and is predicted to remain so for the foreseeable future.

###### **7.2.1.1.3   Capital Facilities**

General government facilities are housed almost entirely within the City Hall and City shop. City Hall has a total of 3,750 square feet of space, 2,190 square feet of which are used for administrative purposes. There is a small amount of room available in this area for additional staff, if required, and administrative space is considered adequate for existing and future needs. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on Kimball City Hall. The City maintenance shop consists of 3,200 square feet of which some 600 square feet are used for office space. Shop space in the city of Kimball is considered barely adequate to meet existing needs.

Table 7.2.1-1

CITY OF KIMBALL STAFFING  
BY DEPARTMENT - 1983

<u>Department</u>	<u>No. of Employees (permanent)</u>
City Administrator	1
Parks	1
Streets and Alleys	4
Electrical	10
Police	7
Accounting	4
Water and Sewer	7
Library	3
Cemetery	1
Animal Warden	<u>1</u>
TOTAL:	39

Source: City of Kimball Administrator's Office, 1983.

Table 7.2.1-2

CITY OF KIMBALL BOARDS AND  
COMMITTEES - 1983

City Council  
Planning Commission  
Board of Adjustment  
Cemetery Board  
Housing Authority  
Park Board  
Library Board  
City-County Airport Zoning Board<sup>1</sup>  
Board of Public Works  
Parks and Recreation Board<sup>1</sup>  
Panhandle Resource Council<sup>2</sup>  
Kimball Airport Authority

Notes: 1 Joint City/County board  
2 Participation

Source: City of Kimball Administrator's Office, 1983.

7.2.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

The City of Kimball equipment and vehicle fleet illustrates the diversity of services that the City provides. In addition to police and fire vehicles, there is a substantial inventory of street and utility department vehicles and equipment. Although condition varies from fair to excellent, overall the capital equipment inventory including scheduled replacements is considered to be in good condition and adequate for the work required. Appendix E presents an inventory of selected major capital equipment.

#### 7.2.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 7.2.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

Under baseline conditions, the population of the city of Kimball is projected to remain stable, dropping only very slightly from 1983 through 1992. In addition, since no organizational or administrative changes are planned, no changes are predicted with the projected baseline.

##### 7.2.1.2.2 Staffing

With stable organization and the baseline population projected for the city of Kimball, no changes in total staffing are likely under baseline conditions during 1983 through 1992.

##### 7.2.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

There are presently no plans to change the existing capital facilities inventory of Kimball. Stable staffing indicates that under baseline conditions, no changes are likely during 1983 through 1992.

##### 7.2.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

Under the projected baseline, the only change in the 1983 capital equipment inventory projected to occur from 1983 to 1992 is the periodic replacement of equipment in accordance with available revenues and capital equipment replacement policy. No major changes in inventory or condition are likely.

#### 7.2.1.3 Project Impacts

##### 7.2.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

All project-related population increases for Kimball County are predicted to occur within the city limits of Kimball. Population increases are projected to be 75 persons in 1988 and 300 persons in 1989. Based on these projections and the fact that the city of Kimball is organized for a considerably larger population base, no changes in organization or administration of Kimball are likely to result from the project.

##### 7.2.1.3.2 Staffing

Based on the 1983 population-to-staff ratio of 3,140 population to 39 employees or 81 population per staff person, the project induced demand for additional staffing is less than 1 person in 1988 and 3.7 persons in 1989. Due to the fact that the City of Kimball staff has adequately provided services to much larger populations, it is not likely that the projected population increases would result in any increases in staffing.

##### 7.2.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

Since population increases are projected to be relatively small and of short duration, and because Kimball capital facilities have been adequate for much larger populations, no project-related capital facilities impacts are projected.



#### 7.2.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

While a small amount of increased use for certain vehicles and equipment owned by the City of Kimball is projected, increased use or increased maintenance is projected to be minimal.

#### 7.2.1.4 Mitigative Measures

Since only negligible impacts on City of Kimball general government were projected to result from the project, no mitigative measures are in order.

#### 7.2.2 Sewage Treatment

##### 7.2.2.1 Baseline Description

Kimball operates a 2-year old extended aeration plant designed for 0.576 million gallons per day (mgd) and 7,240 people (80 gallons per capita per day [gpcd]). The plant now serves the city's population plus 150 people in outlying areas, a total of 3,290 people. Records indicate that the plant now receives between 0.284 mgd and 0.41 mgd on an average day, which indicates that current unit flow rates are between 87 and 125 gpcd. If an in-between, nominal value of 100 gpcd were assumed for both current and future unit flows, the plant could serve 5,760 people. This means there is excess capacity for 2,470 additional people (5,760-3,290).

The plant, which discharges to Lodgepole Creek north of the city, receives its flow through a 12-inch intercepting sewer from the city. Many other smaller sewers are connected to the interceptor. The major portion of the City's sewer system is clay pipe. Although 70 percent of the system was laid 60 to 70 years ago, it remains in "fair" condition, according to the City Administrator.

A \$10 tap-in fee is charged for new connections. Current customers are charged a flat monthly service charge of \$3.39 per household plus \$0.34 per 1,000 gallons. (It can be assumed that the sewage flows are not metered and that this charge is computed as part of the water delivery charge, a fairly standard practice, since the water supplied to each house is metered.) Thus, the average monthly charge to the roughly 1,200 homes (3,290/2.75) is \$3.48 (\$3.39, plus 275 gal/home x \$0.34 per 1,000 gal = \$3.39 + \$0.09). The annual revenue to the City for waste collection and treatment is \$50,112 (\$3.48/mo-home x 1,200 homes x 12 mo/yr).

##### 7.2.2.2 Projected Baseline

It is projected that the population of Kimball will rise during the baseline period from 3,140 in 1983 to 3,220 in 1992. This means that the sewer system should continue to function adequately with maintenance but no new sewers added, and it means that excess capacity will still exist at the treatment plant. Specifically, the excess capacity would be for 2,320 people (5,760-3,290-150).

The baseline effect would be an increase in City revenue for these services. The maximum annual difference in revenue would occur at the end of the period (1992). It would equal \$1,215 (3,220-3,140/2.75 homes at \$3.48/mo x 12 mo/yr) for the year.

#### 7.2.2.3 Project Impacts

Project-induced net immigrations to Kimball have been projected for 1987, 1988, and 1989. The projected immigration includes 75 weekly commuters in 1987 and 75 residents in 1988. In 1989, the net immigration is projected to be 276 residents and 24 transients, bringing the total population to 3,490 versus 3,190 under baseline conditions. The 300 people above baseline conditions in 1989 would add about 9.4 percent to sewage flow rates.

As previously explained, the treatment plant at Kimball has capacity for an additional 2,320 people, so 350 additional people over the current population will not adversely impact the treatment plant. In summary, no facility impacts are predicted for waste collection or treatment services.

The financial impact would be increased revenue for the City. It can be assumed that the charge of \$0.34 per 1,000 gallons recovers the operating expenses associated with increased flow, and the flat rate of \$3.39 per household recovers capital costs for the plant. Therefore, only the \$3.39 monthly charge would represent the net increase in revenue to the City. Accordingly, net revenue over the 3-year project period would be \$5,192 ( $75 + 276$  people/ $2.75$  people-per-household  $\times$  \$3.39/mo  $\times$  12 mo/yr), which includes the 75 annual residents in 1988 and 276 residents in 1989. The 75 weekly commuters in 1987 and 24 transients in 1989 have not been included.

#### 7.2.2.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures for waste collection or treatment in the city of Kimball will be necessary, since no facilities will be impacted.

### 7.2.3 Water Treatment and Distribution

#### 7.2.3.1 Baseline Description

Kimball owns and operates 6 production wells ranging in depth from 120 to 370 feet. The two largest of these wells produce 700 gallons per minute (gpm), and the smallest produces 200 gpm. Total pumping capacity is 2,620 gpm, according to a recent engineering report (Olsson Associates 1983). If all six wells were operated 24 hours per day, they could produce 3.77 mgd to meet short-term peak demands. However, several of the wells pump air or sand when operated at capacity, therefore they must be operated at a reduced rate. As a result, the City's peak capacity is approximately 3.15 mgd. On a long-term basis, the system's capacity is approximately 1.61 mgd.

The water is pumped into the distribution system (4 to 14-inch pipes and 1.0 million gallons [MG] of storage in a single tank) without treatment. Water pressures in town range from 60 to 70 pounds per square inch (psi).

Current usage ranges from 150 to 400 gpcd and averages about 280 gpcd over the entire year. Customers include the city's residents and about 150 persons south of the city limits, for a total service population in 1983 of 3,290. Therefore, average usage today is about 0.92 mgd ( $3,290 \times 280$ ). Hence, excess capacity on a peak-day basis (assuming a peak-day to average-day ratio of 3:1) is 0.39 mgd ( $3.15 - 2.76$ ). Also on a peak-day basis, the excess capacity means that 464 additional persons could be served ( $390,000 \text{ gal} / 280 \times 3$ ).

The water delivery system in Kimball is run by four employees. The annual (1983) budget is \$225,000. Water rates for residential customers are a flat rate of \$6.50 per month for the first 2,000 gallons, \$0.60 per 1,000 gallons for the next 8,000 gallons, \$0.46 per 1,000 for the next 20,000 gallons, \$0.40 per 1,000 for the next 20,000 gallons, and \$0.30 for each 1,000 gallons over 50,000.

The average household (customer) uses 23,400 gallons of water per month (280 gpcd x 2.75 x 365/12). The average bill, therefore, is \$16.54 per month, based on the rate schedule quoted above. Yearly revenue from water sales to residential customers is about \$236,700.

#### 7.2.3.2 Projected Baseline

Kimball's population has been projected to increase by 80 people (3,140 to 3,220) by 1992. Assuming this represents about 29 households or customers, pumping would increase by 678,600 gallons per month (29 homes x 23,400 gal/mo-home). The added revenue to the City would be \$480 per month (29 x \$16.54), or \$5,760 per year. However, the City would have added pumping energy costs equal to \$30.12 per month or \$361.44 per year. (These computations assume a 200-foot pumping lift, which may be high, and a \$0.06 cost per kilowatt hour). The net revenue to the City, then, will be about \$450 (\$480-\$30.12) per month or about \$5,400 (\$5,760-\$361.44) per year.

No noticeable operational or facilities changes will be necessary.

#### 7.2.3.3 Project Impacts

The 300 net immigrants in 1989 will bring the peak population to 3,490, 350 more than in 1983.

The 350 new residents or about 127 households, will demand 2,971,800 gallons of additional water each month (127 x 23,400) over today's demand. This also represents a 9.0-percent increase over baseline demands (including the 150 people served outside the city) in 1989 (300/3,340) and a 10.6-percent increase over today's demands (350/3,290). No new facilities would be required. Only an operational change to increase pumping rates by 10.6 percent over today's pumpage would be necessary. Recall that excess capacity exists for 424 people, compared with the peak addition over today's population of 350.

#### 7.2.3.4 Mitigative Measures

Because no facility impacts will occur for water treatment and distribution in Kimball, no mitigative measures will be necessary.

### 7.2.4 Solid Waste Disposal

#### 7.2.4.1 Baseline Description

The City of Kimball, Nebraska, does not operate a public solid waste collection system. It contracts with a private firm (Western Salvage) which serves all residents and businesses (100 commercial accounts) with one 18 cubic-yard (cy) rear-loading compactor vehicle and one 30 cy side-loading vehicle. These

are owned and maintained by Western Salvage. Collections are performed with one-man crews on a once-a-week basis with additional collections available on demand.

An average of eight to nine truckloads of waste is deposited weekly at the City-owned sanitary landfill which is also operated under private contract with Kimball. This landfill, located approximately 1 mile west of the city, covers 98 acres, of which 80 acres are available for landfilling. This is a newly opened landfill accepting all forms of household and commercial wastes, construction debris, discarded appliances such as refrigerators and stoves, tires, and vegetative wastes. No chemical, industrial, toxic, or hazardous wastes are accepted for disposal. Cover material is readily available at the site. It is expected that under current operating levels this site will have capacity for 40 to 50 years. The landfill is ringed by a security fence with a control gate.

The workforce necessary to operate the solid waste system includes one employee of Western Salvage (collection), one employee for landfill operations (private contract), and one administrative officer (Kimball). Fees for residential collection are \$6.00 per month per residence with a separate fee structure for commercial generators and individuals disposing directly at the landfill.

#### 7.2.4.2 Projected Baseline

Kimball has experienced a sharp decline in its population since 1970, and projections show only a slight increase through 1992. As a result, the quantity of solid wastes generated in Kimball will also increase slightly. Based on projections of population for Kimball, the quantity of solid waste generated will increase from an average of 7.85 tons per day in 1983 to 8.05 tons per day in 1992, an increase of only 3.8 percent.

Kimball does not operate a public solid waste collection and disposal system, choosing instead to contract with private firms. All indications are that the City is satisfied with this arrangement and will continue with it in the future. The increases in waste generation are not expected to affect the collection and disposal systems currently in operation other than to reduce the life of the City's 98-acre landfill to slightly less than its present 50-year capacity. Furthermore, there is no impact predicted for City government expenditures, public health and safety, or environmental quality during this time.

#### 7.2.4.3 Project Impacts

Kimball is projected to receive immigrant population over the period of 1987 to 1989. However, the peak year for this immigration will not occur until 1989, when 276 permanent residents and 24 transients will reside in Kimball. Until that time Kimball's population is projected to increase by only 75 weekly commuters in 1987, and 75 permanent residents in 1988. No persons are projected to arrive prior to 1987 nor to remain after 1989.

Based on these population estimates, in 1987 Kimball will experience an increase in project-induced waste generation of approximately 0.11 tons per day or 40.1 tons per year. This amount will increase to 0.19 tons per day or

69.3 tons per year in 1988, and 0.73 tons per day or 266.4 tons per year in 1989. The total quantity of project-induced wastes generated over 1987 to 1989 will amount to 375.9 tons, or 4.3 percent over the amount generated under projected baseline conditions.

As a result of both the short duration and relatively low overall project-related increase in solid waste generation, no impacts are expected for the waste collection and disposal services in Kimball. The life of the City's new landfill will not be measurably reduced (0.20 acres required for the additional wastes). The private collection service operating in Kimball also is capable of handling the increased waste flow during the 1987 to 1989 period.

#### 7.2.4.4 Mitigative Measures

Because there will be no impacts related to solid waste facilities, no mitigative measures will be necessary.

#### 7.2.5 Stormwater

##### 7.2.5.1 Baseline Description

Kimball has a number of 15 to 30-inch storm drains and a concrete ditch to the north of town designed for 20-year events. In the southwest part of town, sewers occasionally become clogged with sediment, and an annual cleaning program is underway.

As shown in Table 3.2.5-2, the developed area of Kimball would experience a peak runoff rate in a 2-year storm of 450 cubic feet per second (cfs). Eight equivalent 60-inch outfalls would be necessary to drain the entire city, and three 60-inch outfalls or the equivalent would be required to drain the commercial part of town.

While 0.9 inch per hour was computed from regional data to be the 2-year rainfall intensity for Kimball, other weather data for gages near Pine Bluffs indicate that the 1-hour, 2-year storm equals 0.99 inch of rain. The 100-year rainfall over a 24-hour period would be 3.8 inches. Hence, larger events than the design rainfall used here are possible.

##### 7.2.5.2 Projected Baseline

Because the baseline population growth in Kimball is projected to be so low (80 people) throughout the 1983 to 1992 period, very little new land development is expected. Accordingly, no increases in runoff rates can be projected, and no additions to storm drainage works will be necessary.

##### 7.2.5.3 Project Impacts

The peak project-induced immigration year is 1989; however, only 9 mobile-home sites are projected to be the net housing demand.

The existing peak runoff would be increased from 450 cfs virtually not at all by this very minute change in land use. No new stormwater facilities would be necessary.

#### 7.2.5.4 Mitigative Measures

Because no stormwater facilities impacts are indicated for Kimball, there are no mitigative measures warranted.

#### 7.2.6 Law Enforcement

##### 7.2.6.1 Baseline Description

The Kimball Police Department is located in the Kimball City Hall. (See Appendix D for information on City Hall capacity and condition.) The Department has six sworn personnel of whom five are on regular patrol duties. Civilian personnel include one animal control officer and a secretary/dispatcher. Starting salary for patrolmen is approximately \$1,213 per month. Night and weekend dispatching for the Police Department is handled by the County Sheriff's Department.

The Department has two marked patrol cars, one unmarked unit, and an animal control unit. The marked units last 2 years or about 50,000 miles at which time they are replaced at a cost of \$9,000.

The facilities of the Kimball Police Department consist of 960 square feet divided into an interrogation room, chief's office, and dispatch/operations room in the City Hall. The building was constructed in 1924 but has been remodeled three times since. The Police Department has no jail, housing all prisoners at the county jail.

##### 7.2.6.2 Projected Baseline

Under baseline conditions, the population of the City of Kimball is projected to increase slightly from 1983 to 1992. This relatively stable population is not projected to necessitate any changes in the staff, vehicles, or space needs of the Kimball Police Department through 1992 from 1983 levels.

##### 7.2.6.3 Project Impacts

Under the project impacts the city of Kimball is projected to increase in population by 75 persons in 1988 and by another 225 persons in 1989. This total of 300 project-related immigrants would be gone in 1990. This growth would require one additional sworn officer in 1989 but no other increases in staff, vehicles, or facilities of the Police Department to maintain existing service levels.

Based on salary and fringe benefits of \$1,582 per month, the additional officer would cost \$18,990. It is interesting to note that the Kimball Police Department is the same size now as it was in the 1960s when, during deployment of the Atlas missile in the area, the community was much larger than is projected under the project impacts.

Because of its location relative to the activity associated with the deployment of the Peacekeeper missile, there exists the possibility that demonstrations regarding the project could occur in Kimball. However, it is considered unlikely that Kimball would be the site of such demonstrations because of its relatively small size, distance from the primary focus of Peacekeeper activity

at F.E. Warren AFB, and the reduced ease of national media attention relative to Cheyenne.

#### 7.2.6.4 Mitigative Measures

The effect of the project on the Kimball Police Department will require provision by the City of Kimball of 1 additional sworn officer for 1 year. This mitigation measure will be effective in maintaining existing service levels, and if selected, should be implemented in 1989 by the City.

#### 7.2.7 Fire Protection

The Kimball Fire Department is staffed by volunteers. The Department uses the same volunteers as the surrounding rural fire district and the two share the fire station. These two agencies are discussed together in Section 7.6.

#### 7.2.8 Local Recreational Facilities

##### 7.2.8.1 Baseline Description

###### 7.2.8.1.1 Organization, Administration, and Planning

The City of Kimball owns, operates, and maintains parks and an outdoor swimming pool within its incorporated limits. Operation and maintenance of these facilities are the responsibility of seven part-time or seasonal employees, four working at the pool and the remaining three in the parks system. The City has no formal parks and recreation department.

The County and the City of Kimball work cooperatively in operating and maintaining the parks and recreation facility southeast of Kimball on Highway 30. The facility is owned by the City and administered by the Board of Park Commissioners. The Board consists of six members, four of whom are appointed by the City and two by the County. The parks and recreation complex is operated and maintained by six employees, two of whom are full time. It is not known what proportion of total employee salaries at the facility is paid by the City.

Parks and recreation services are not currently considered in formal governmental planning efforts. The area does not have a master plan for parks and recreation, nor subdivision regulations requiring parkland dedications or fees in lieu of land.

###### 7.2.8.1.2 Recreation Programs

Recreational activity diversity in the area has remained stable over the last several years. (This is considered significant since Kimball's population dipped by more than 30 percent between 1970 and 1980.) Recreational opportunities include golf, tennis, softball, baseball, swimming, basketball, picnicking, playground activities, archery, and trapshooting. Even though no activity participation statistics are available to document overall trends, local officials indicate that ballpark activities, golf, and swimming are the most popular recreational activities.

#### 7.2.8.1.3 Recreation Facilities

The Kimball area has two significant recreation facilities, an outdoor swimming pool owned and operated by the City, and the park and recreation facility operated and administered jointly by the City and County. The 25-meter pool was constructed contiguous to Gotte Park at a cost of \$307,000 and has been in operation for 2 years. The park and recreation facility is located a short distance southeast of Kimball along Highway 30. It is a centralized recreation area containing:

- o Four ballfields, two of which are lighted;
- o Archery range;
- o Trapshooting range;
- o Nine-hole golf course;
- o Two tennis courts;
- o Maintenance building; and
- o Golf cart storage building.

The facility has enough undeveloped acres of land that, if public demand and fiscal resources made it plausible, another nine-hole golf course could be added to the existing course.

#### 7.2.8.1.4 Parks

Kimball has two developed parks totaling 21 acres. No undeveloped or dedicated parkland has been set aside, nor has additional parkland acquisition or development been planned or budgeted. Locally perceived park-related problems focus on a reduction in services due to budget constraints and problems engendered by vandalism. Table 7.2.8-1 presents an inventory of parks, recreation facilities, and special use facilities in the Kimball area.

#### 7.2.8.1.5 Special Use Facilities

The county fairgrounds constitutes a 10-acre special use facility commonly scheduled for 4-H and Future Farmers of America Competitions.

#### 7.2.8.1.6 Other Recreational Opportunities

Within the area there are a number of other recreation programs and facilities provided by other public agencies and private enterprise. These include Kimball County High School District No. 1, the Senior Citizens Center, Kimball's Episcopal Church, the public library, and a number of commercial recreation opportunities.

The local Natural Resource District has provided partial funding for one of the county's most popular outdoor recreation sites, Oliver Reservoir. The District, comprising Kimball, Cheyenne, and Duell counties, is a taxing district empowered to levy taxes for the purpose of supporting and maintaining



# INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS, RECREATION, AND SPECIAL USE FACILITIES KIMBALL, NEBRASKA

Notes: 1 Located as part of Gotte Park

a Indicates ballfields that are lighted

Sources: Town of Kimball Administrator; Kimball High School District No. 1 Athletic Director.

recreational areas. Through financial support from the District and the federal jobs bill, as well as extensive volunteer work and fundraising, the recreation site situated 9 miles west of Kimball has become popular with residents from Nebraska, Wyoming, and Colorado. The reservoir area consists of 980 acres of land, of which approximately 272 acres are water. Recreational opportunities include fishing, water skiing, boating, swimming, camping, picnicking, playground activities, hiking, and nature study.

Recreation facilities operated in support of school programs have been opened to public recreational use on a limited basis. The high school gymnasium and weight room are open to interested parties at times not conflicting with school activities for basketball, volleyball, and training with weights. An inventory of facilities owned by the County School District includes gymnasiums at the high school and junior high school, small gymnasiums or multi-purpose rooms at the elementary schools, and one football field at both the high school and junior high school. Joint use programs between the public schools and the City are difficult to arrange because of heavy facility use by school programs.

The Senior Citizens Center of Kimball offers a number of activities for senior citizens including noon meals, a musical band, and numerous arts and crafts classes. These activities are funded through donations and tax dollars.

The Episcopal Church of Kimball and the public library also offer recreational opportunities. The church operates and maintains a lighted tennis court for public use. The library offers a summer reading program.

Commercial recreation facilities in the Kimball area include an eight-lane bowling alley, a private golf club, one indoor movie theater, and a drive-in theater.

#### 7.2.8.1.7 Budget

The budget for parks and recreation is divided into three sections:

- o The Park Fund is administered and financed by the City to operate and maintain in-town park facilities;
- o The Pool Fund is administered and financed by the City to operate and maintain its swimming pool; and
- o The Parks and Recreation Fund is jointly administered and financed by the City and County to operate and maintain the park and recreation facility.

The total budget of actual dollar expenditures for these three funds has increased steadily from \$110,683 in fiscal year (FY) 1980-81 to \$137,705 in FY 1982-83. Increases are due primarily to ongoing operation and maintenance costs of developed parks and facilities. Expenditures in real dollars (adjusted for inflation) have remained relatively stable over the last 3 fiscal years. The County's contribution to expenditures for the park and recreation facility ranged from \$13,383 in FY 1980-81 to \$14,900 in FY 1982-83. (This amounted to 19 percent of total expenditures in FY 1980-81 and 17 percent in FY 1982-83.) Capital improvement expenditures over the last

3 fiscal years have been small, cumulatively amounting to \$17,144. No parks and recreation grants have been used or applied for over the previous 3 years because key socioeconomic indicators used to determine grant approval (e.g., number of minority residents and per capita income) mitigate against the area receiving funds. Table 7.2.8-2 shows parks and recreation expenditures over the past 3 fiscal years.

#### 7.2.8.2 Projected Baseline

Under the baseline scenario, Kimball's population is expected to increase by 80 residents from 1983 to 1992. The community has adequate parks and recreation services for its existing population and is experiencing some difficulty in maintaining existing facilities due to declining population and tax base. It appears that population growth would create positive benefits for Kimball's parks and recreation system and that a declining population will eventually result in a deteriorating system due to a declining capability to fund services.

#### 7.2.8.3 Project Impacts

The current population of Kimball is estimated at 3,140 people. Project development is expected to produce a modest population increase over a 2 year period. In 1988, 75 additional people are expected, this number increases to 300 people in 1989 (peak year). Project immigration will not create an excessive demand for additional parkland or facilities within Kimball. Additional maintenance of facilities will be required, and an additional part-time staff member may have to be added.

#### 7.2.8.4 Mitigative Measures

The proposed project development will not pose significant increases in population for the Kimball area. Population projections actually show that project development will tend to stabilize area population over the projection period. Because of this relatively stable trend, no additional parks and recreation facilities will be needed, therefore, no mitigative measures are required. The major problem for area parks and recreation will remain that of funding operations costs.

Table 7.2.8-2

## KIMBALL PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET

	<u>FY 1980-81</u>	<u>FY 1981-82</u>	<u>FY 1982-83</u>
Park Fund			
Capital Expenditures	337	1,450	0
Operations & Maintenance	23,502	20,585	27,850
Total Expenditures	23,839	22,035	27,850
Swimming Pool Fund			
Capital Expenditures	1,305	837	3,000
Operations & Maintenance	13,359	22,702	21,525
Total Expenditures	14,664	23,539	24,525
Park & Recreation Fund			
Capital Expenditures	2,515	3,700	4,000
Operations & Maintenance	69,365	77,005	81,330
Total Expenditures	71,880	80,705	85,330
Total Fund Expenditures			
Capital Expenditures	4,157	5,987	7,000
Operations & Maintenance	106,226	120,292	130,705
Total Expenditures	110,383	126,279	137,705

Source: City of Kimball Administrator.

## 7.2.9 Library Facilities

### 7.2.9.1 Baseline Description

Library services available to residents of both the city and county include the Kimball Public Library and the library resources of the 11-county western Nebraska Panhandle Network through the Panhandle Library Network system.

#### 7.2.9.1.1 Kimball Public Library

A summary of pertinent library statistics compared to Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) service standards (Table 7.2.9-1) demonstrates that space, books, and staff are adequate for the county and city population. An inadequate library budget constrains development of new services.

Data on library facilities and services provided by the Kimball Public Library are presented in Table 7.2.9-2. The library is funded by the City of Kimball, but is open to all county residents.

The library was built in 1966 with an addition in 1976. The facility is in good condition but was not designed for energy efficiency, a problem which will be ameliorated in the near future following an energy audit. There is some capacity for expansion within the existing structure. There are plans to convert a storage room into an additional meeting room, because the one multi-purpose room is heavily used in winter. Use of space in the library is flexible; seating arrangements for different users can be adapted to meet needs. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on the Kimball Public Library.

Table 7.2.9-1

#### KIMBALL PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES ACTUAL VERSUS RECOMMENDED

	<u>Actual Service Level</u>	<u>Recommended NLC Standards</u>
Space	6,420 sq ft	6,000 sq ft (min)
Books per Capita	4.5	4
Staff per Population	1:1,620	1:2,000
Budget per Capita	\$7.95	\$16.09

Note: Wyoming State Library standards were used for staff and budget as no Nebraska Library Commission quantitative measures of service adequacy exist.

Source: "Guidelines for Public Library Service in Nebraska," Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, 1980, and Wyoming public library standards. Based on 1982 county population of 4,860.

The existing library staff is working at or above capacity and the number of library users is increasing. Additional programs which the Director would like to provide are not feasible given the limited library staff. However, no additions to staff are contemplated due to budget constraints.

Table 7.2.9-2

LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES  
KIMBALL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FY 1981-1982

Service Population:	Kimball County (1982 = 4,860)	
Total Floor Space:	6,420 sq ft	
Floor Space/Capita:	1.3 sq ft	
Shelf Space:	809 linear ft	
Seats:	22	
Multipurpose Rooms:	2	
Hours/Week:	44 Winter; 38 Summer	
Books	Adult:	12,633
	Children:	9,337
	Total:	21,970
Books/Capita:	4.5	
Nonbook Materials:	4,632	
Total Library Materials:	26,602	
Materials/Capita:	5.5	
Books/Materials Budget:	\$9,268	
Equipment:	2 16-mm projectors; 3 tape players, 1 microfilm reader, 1 microfiche reader, 3 filmstrip projectors, 2 slide projectors, 2 copy machines, 2 screens, 1 opaque projector, 1 overhead projector, 1 stage lantern, 2 cameras	
Staff Postions:	Director	40 hrs/wk @ \$12,720/yr.
	Librarian Assistant	20 hrs/wk @ \$ 3.90/hr.
	Librarian Assistant	30 hrs/wk @ \$ 3.65/hr.
	Janitor	\$2,646/yr.

Table 7.2.9-2 continued, page 2 of 2  
PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Total Staff:	3 FTE
Staff Budget:	\$25,079
Special Programs:	Summer reading, film rental, adult programs, films speakers, discussion groups, senior citizen outreach, art & photo exhibits, book fair
Circulation:	28,440
Circulation/Capita:	5.9
Total Budget:	\$38,617
Budget/Capita:	\$7.95
Source:	Director, Kimball Public Library, Kimball, Nebraska, June 1983, and Library Statistical Report for FY 1981-1982, Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Library Director works in close cooperation with local school libraries to coordinate book, material, and equipment purchases for optimization of budget allocations. The Kimball County High School library is open to the public, and provides supplemental library services to county residents. The primary mission of the school library is to support school curricula.

#### 7.2.9.1.2 Panhandle Library Network System

The Panhandle Library Network system was initiated in 1969 to support library resource provision and service development in the 11-county Panhandle region. The system receives funds from the Nebraska Library Commission. Recently funded programs include reference services available to all member libraries, Inter-Library Loan access to all book collections in the state through the Nebraska Union Catalog Books by Mail Service, books for the blind and physically handicapped, and library service and information workshops for library staff.

Toll-free telephone reference services are provided to all Panhandle system libraries by the Chadron State College Library in Chadron, Nebraska, under contract to the Panhandle system. Toll-free reference services are extensively utilized by libraries lacking adequate in-library reference resources. The Nebraska Union Catalog listing facilitates access to all library resources in the state through Inter-Library Loans.

The Nebraska Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped of the Nebraska Library Commission, headquartered in Lincoln, provides library services through individual libraries or direct access. The service includes cassette books, large print and special format periodicals, magazines on tape, and equipment.

#### 7.2.9.2 Projected Baseline

The baseline population for Kimball County as a whole is projected to gradually decline through 1992. No change in the level of library services provided to the present population will therefore be required to meet the needs of the future baseline population. Table 7.2.9-3 demonstrates that, as library services are assumed to remain at current levels, future ratios of service-to-population will increase as the population declines. If no books are added to the Kimball Public Library collection, the ratio of books per capita will increase from the current 4.5 to 4.6 books per capita for the projected 1992 population. With no additions to library staff, the ratio of staff-to-population will improve from 1:1,620 to 1:1,600 in 1992. With 6,420 total square feet of library space, the current ratio of space-to-population is 1:3.2. This figure will not change appreciably with the projected baseline population.

#### 7.2.9.3 Project Impacts

Population immigration to Kimball County associated with the project is projected for 1987, 1988, and 1989. The baseline population in Kimball County is projected to decline through 1992. The decreasing baseline population will increase per capita library service provision to the county without additions of books or staff.



Table 7.2.9-3

KIMBALL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BASELINE SERVICE LEVEL CHANGES<sup>1</sup>  
(1984 to 1992)

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Projected Baseline Population	4,840	4,830	4,820	4,820	4,820	4,810	4,810	4,800	4,800
Books per Capita (1982 Books= 21,970 or 4.5 Books per Capita)	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6	4.6
Population to Staff Ratio <sup>2</sup> (1982 = 3 Staff, 1 Staff per 1,620 Population)	1,613	1,610	1,607	1,607	1,607	1,603	1,603	1,600	1,600

Note: 1 Based on the declining population projected for Kimball City and County, without any additions to books or staff, the service to population levels provided by the Kimball Public Library will increase as demonstrated.

2 Ratios expressed as 1,613 rather than 1,613:1.

Immigration due to the project will offset the decrease in the baseline county population, and reduce the number of books per capita from an estimated 4.6 in 1988 under baseline conditions to 4.3 in 1989 with the total baseline plus immigrant population. In 1990, books per capita will return to 4.6. The 1989 baseline plus immigrant county population (5,110) will also temporarily lower the ratio of library staff-to-population from a baseline ratio of 1 staff per 1,603 population to an impact ratio of 1:1,703. These changed service levels attributable to the project-induced population are within NLC service guidelines.

In order to meet the project immigrant population library service needs at the service guideline levels and not lower existing or baseline service levels, a total of 1,200 books should be added to the library collection in 1989; an additional 8 hours of staff time per week should also be required in 1989, as shown in Table 7.2.9-4.

The square feet of library space per capita in the library will also increase with a declining population. The NLC guideline for a library serving up to 6,000 population is a minimum of 6,000 square feet. Kimball Public Library contains 6,420 square feet of space, which will be adequate for both baseline and project immigrants through 1992.

Table 7.2.9-4

KIMBALL PUBLIC LIBRARY  
IMMIGRANT POPULATION BOOK AND  
FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF DEMAND  
(1987-1989)

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Immigrant Population	75	75	300
Book Demand of Immigrant Population (Total)	300	300	1,200
Staff Demand of Immigrant Population (Total FTE)	0	0	0.2

Note: Immigrant population includes weekly commuters and transients based on NLC guidelines for service for Kimball population: 4 books per capita and 1 staff per 2,000 population. Additional book demand is rounded to nearest 10 books, expressed as total books recommended for immigrant population in each year. Staff demand expressed as FTE personnel. Two-tenths of an FTE staff member may be understood as representing 8 additional hours of staff time per week.

#### 7.2.9.4 Mitigative Measures

There will be no impacts of the project on library services in the city or county of Kimball. The projected decrease in baseline county population will compensate for any temporary project-related population influx. The net

effect on population will be a continued gradual decline over the next 10 years with a concomitant increase in per capita library service delivery. Therefore, no mitigative programs are suggested.

## **7.2.10 Transportation**

### **7.2.10.1 Roads**

#### **7.2.10.1.1 Baseline Description**

The city of Kimball is an incorporated community situated in a rural area, located 40 miles west of Sidney and approximately 1 mile north of Interstate 80 (Figure 7.2.10-1). Access from Interstate 80 is via State Highway 71 (Federal Aid Primary) which is a 2-lane, two-way paved road. The local roadway network consists of U.S. 30 (Federal Aid Primary and Secondary), State Highway 71, and several paved and gravel roads. U.S. 30 intersects State Highway 71 in the middle of town and the intersection is controlled by traffic signals. The Union Pacific Railroad traverses the town on the north side. The State Highway 71 underpass has a low clearance (13'6") at the northern end of the Central Business District. An at-grade crossing is located at Jackson and County Road 245 on the eastern side.

#### **7.2.10.1.2 Projected Baseline**

Though traffic volumes will increase, motorists would perceive no change in traffic operations. There will be minimal degradations of levels of service, queues, delay, safety, and physical conditions.

#### **7.2.10.1.3 Project Impacts**

Based on current information, it appears that road traffic demand under the project would have an overall negligible effect on the roadway system.

Levels of service would experience no changes in level of service category A, B, or C.

#### **7.2.10.1.4 Mitigative Measures**

No mitigative measures will be required.

### **7.2.10.2 Aviation**

#### **7.2.10.2.1 Baseline Description**

Kimball Municipal Airport is located 3 miles south of town at an elevation of 4,948 feet. It is operated by an airport manager and overseen by a city airport authority. Kimball has 20 single engine and 2 multiengine based aircraft with approximately 7,500 annual operations. Runway 11/29 is 3,750 feet long by 75 wide with asphalt pavement and runway lights. Runways 5/23 and 17/35 are 2,500 and 2,100 feet long, respectively, and 170 feet wide. Both are turf runways.

There are no scheduled commercial operations at the airport.

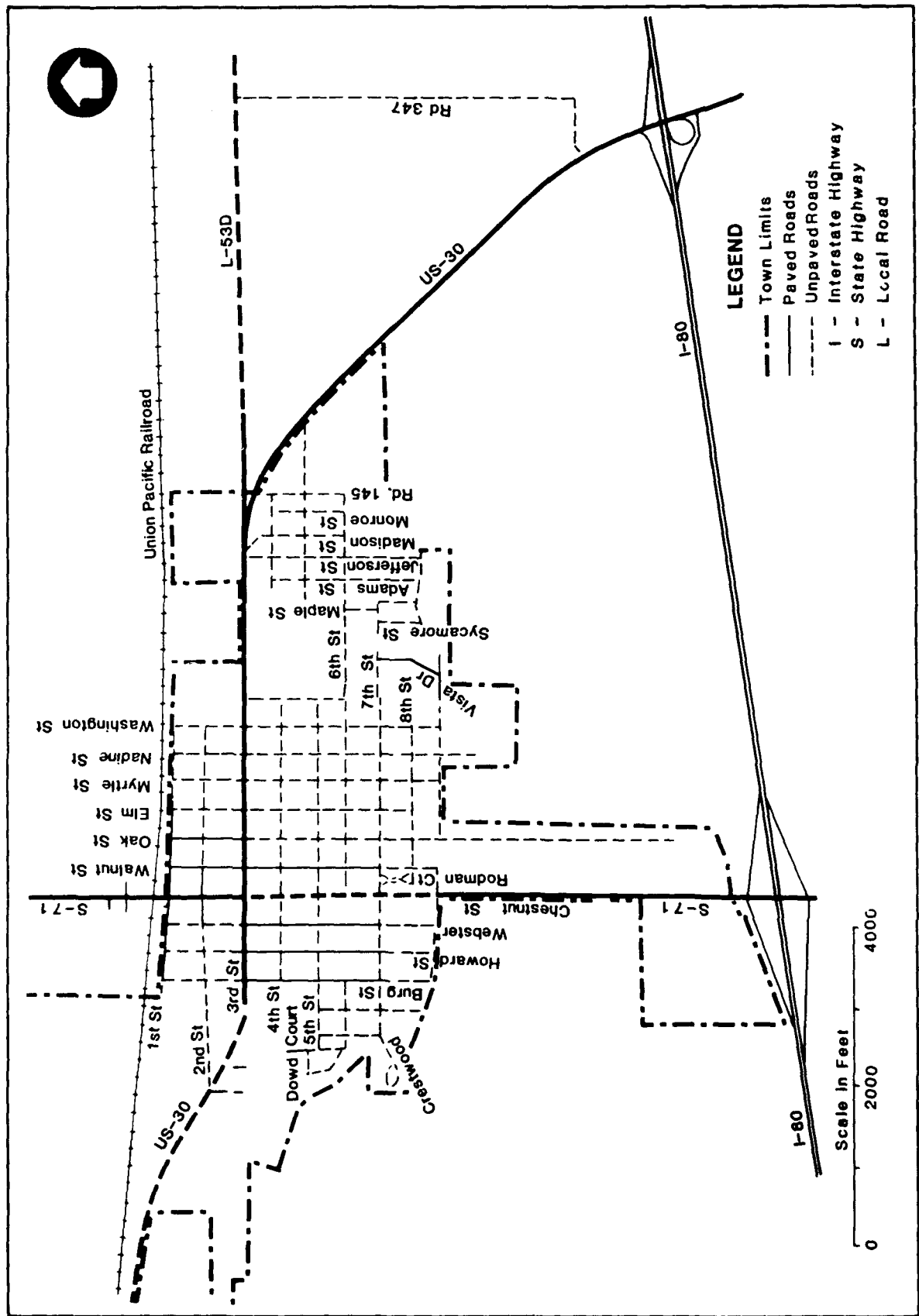


FIGURE 7.2.10-1 CITY OF KIMBALL ROADWAY NETWORK

#### 7.2.10.2.2 Projected Baseline

Kimball Municipal Airport is underutilized at present and with a 6-percent growth rate would still only total 12,000 operations per year.

The airport authority has recently commissioned a master plan study for the airport with the aim of extending the present main runway length to 6,000 feet, installing a jet fuel storage facility and increasing hangar space. Should these improvements be constructed then Kimball Airport will become more attractive to aircraft which now do not use the airport due to the short runway length and aircraft operations will increase.

With the increased competition of smaller air taxis and air carriers and the expansion of service to smaller communities, it is possible that Kimball could be added to the Scotts Bluff - Cheyenne - Denver route by one of the air carriers.

#### 7.2.10.2.3 Project Impacts

During construction of the Minuteman missile silos 20 years ago, Kimball was used as a construction staging area. A fleet of helicopters operated out of Kimball by an Omaha-based service under contract to the construction contractor. It is believed that approximately six helicopters were based at Kimball.

Kimball is a possible site as a dispatch station under the Peacekeeper project and the assumption of again having helicopters based there is reasonable. The Kimball Airport is in a rural area away from residential property and has the capacity to handle a large number of helicopters, both for air operations and ground parking areas. Should airport facilities be expanded as proposed, then Kimball Airport will become a more attractive center for construction-related transport.

#### 7.2.10.2.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures are required.

### 7.3 Village of Dix, Nebraska: Community Profile

Dix (1980 population, 275) was incorporated prior to 1920. The village has a five-man Board of Directors, one of whom is Chairman. The Board members have served an average of 4 years; the Chairman has held that position for 1 year. Board members spend approximately 2 hours a month on town business, in addition to the monthly Board meeting. Table 7.3-1 provides an inventory of public services.

Dix employs two persons full time: a village clerk who makes \$5,304 a year, and a maintenance man who makes \$14,400. A temporary summer supervisor makes \$400 for the summer. Village expenses ran \$70,000 in FY 1982-83.

The Village owns two buildings: the fire house and a maintenance shop. It owns several sites without buildings, including a park, a water tower, a sewer pond, and a dump. The Village government has no plans to sell or rehabilitate any existing facilities, or to construct any new ones. Public utilities in Dix appear to be adequate.

Table 7.3-1

INVENTORY OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN  
SMALL COMMUNITIES  
KIMBALL COUNTY  
(1983)

	<u>Dix</u>	<u>Bushnell</u>
Total 1980 population	275	187
Years mayor in office	2	1
Number of employees	2	3
Operating expenses	\$70,000	\$45,000
Gallons of water storage	45,000	55,000
Water system condition	adequate	adequate
Sewer system condition	adequate	adequate
No. of police officers	0	0
No. of police vehicles	0	0
No. of firefighters	23	20
Combined town/rural district	yes	yes
Size of largest main	4"	6"
Fire insurance rating	8	8
Condition of firehouse	adequate	adequate
No. of pumpers & tankers	3	4
No. of "quick attack" units	1	2
No. of rescue units	0	0
No. of Emergency Medical Technicians	5	8

Source: Personal communication, Mayor and Fire Chief, Town of Dix; Mayor and Councilman, Town of Bushnell.

Dix does not employ any police officers, and has no police property. The Kimball County Sheriff's Office and the Nebraska State Highway Patrol provide police protection. The Village has no crime prevention program, and virtually no crime.

The Dix Volunteer Fire Department has 23 members. The Department covers both the village and a rural district 29 miles long and 9 miles wide. Firefighters receive 12 hours of training a year, including some from the Air Force. The Department checks buildings for hazardous materials and has passed out stickers with the fire emergency phone number. The fire hydrants receive water from the Village's 45,000 gallon water tower through 4-inch mains.

The fire house is over 50-years old and in good condition. It will hold four vehicles and has a multipurpose community room and an unused basement. The Department owns two pumper/tankers. Both hold 750 gallons of water; one is in excellent condition and the other in fair condition. The Fire Department also owns a 1,200 gallon tanker and a "quick-attack" unit, both in good condition. A second "quick-attack" unit was ordered for delivery in fall 1983. The Department has access to a civil defense vehicle. The Village has a fire insurance rating of eight.

Dix's recreation facilities include a park, a tennis court with basketball backboards, a skating rink, horseshoe pits, and playground equipment. A shelter provides a facility for limited indoor activities. Dix has no parks and recreation department, although it does appropriate funds from its budget for maintaining recreation facilities.

The Village and the school district run a cooperative children's recreation program during the summer months. In addition, volunteers coordinate and supervise the Little League baseball and adult softball programs. The school district allows its facilities to be used for league play. The townspeople see the need for construction of a swimming pool in the near future.

Only a community profile is provided here because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Dix.

#### **7.4      Village of Bushnell, Nebraska: Community Profile**

Bushnell (1980 population, 187) has a village form of government with a Board of Directors. The Board has five members, one of whom is appointed Chairman. The Chairman has held his position for 5 years, and the other Board members have served 6 years on the average. Board members spend approximately 5 hours a month on village business, in addition to board meetings. Table 7.3-1 provides an inventory of public services.

The Village employs three people, a full-time maintenance man, a part-time city clerk, and an accountant on contract. Total labor costs run \$1,230 a month. Village expenditures are currently running about \$45,000 a year.

Bushnell owns two buildings, a combination fire house and community building, and a combination pump house and repair shed. The Village owns two parks, a cemetery, and a sewer pond, and has no plans to buy or sell any property in the near future. It does plan to put in 2 blocks of new curb and gutter at a cost of \$15,000.

Bushnell's public utilities appear to be adequate. The 55,000 gallon water tower was built in 1913 and refurbished 2 years ago. The sewer pond sits on 10 acres. Other utilities are supplied by private contract.

Bushnell has no police officers, facilities, or equipment. The Kimball County Sheriff's Department in Kimball provides law enforcement services, and a reserve deputy sheriff lives 2 miles outside of the village. Bushnell experiences very little crime.

The Bushnell Volunteer Fire Department has 20 members. The Department covers both the village and the Johnson Rural Fire District, which is 26 miles long and 14 miles wide. The Department has no formal training requirements. Firemen may go to the state fire school once a year, and the Air Force has provided some training in the past. Bushnell has no fire prevention programs, but it does enforce building codes through building permits. The Village's fire hydrant system is fed by 6-inch mains.

The Village owns a 500 gallon pumper/tanker in fair condition and a 1,700 gallon tanker in good condition. The Rural Department owns one 500 gallon pumper/tanker and one 1,200 gallon tanker, both in good condition. The departments also have two "quick-attack" units, both in good condition. The Village has a fire insurance rating of eight.

Bushnell's outdoor recreation facilities include two parks, two horseshoe pits, picnic tables, and playground equipment. The Village has no parks and recreation department or formal recreation budget. The grade school gymnasium is open to the public by permission.

Only a community profile is provided here because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Bushnell.

## **7.5      Other Jurisdictions - Education**

### **7.5.1      Kimball County Education System**

#### **7.5.1.1      Baseline Description**

There are four school districts in Kimball County (Figure 7.5.1-1): Kimball County High School (grades 9-12), Dix Public School (K-12), Kimball Public Schools (K-8), and Bushnell Elementary (K-8). There are six classes of districts in Nebraska as listed below:

- o Class I includes any school district that maintains only elementary grades under the direction of a single school board;
- o Class II includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 1,000 inhabitants or less that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;
- o Class III includes any school district embracing territory having a population of more than 1,000 and less than 100,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;



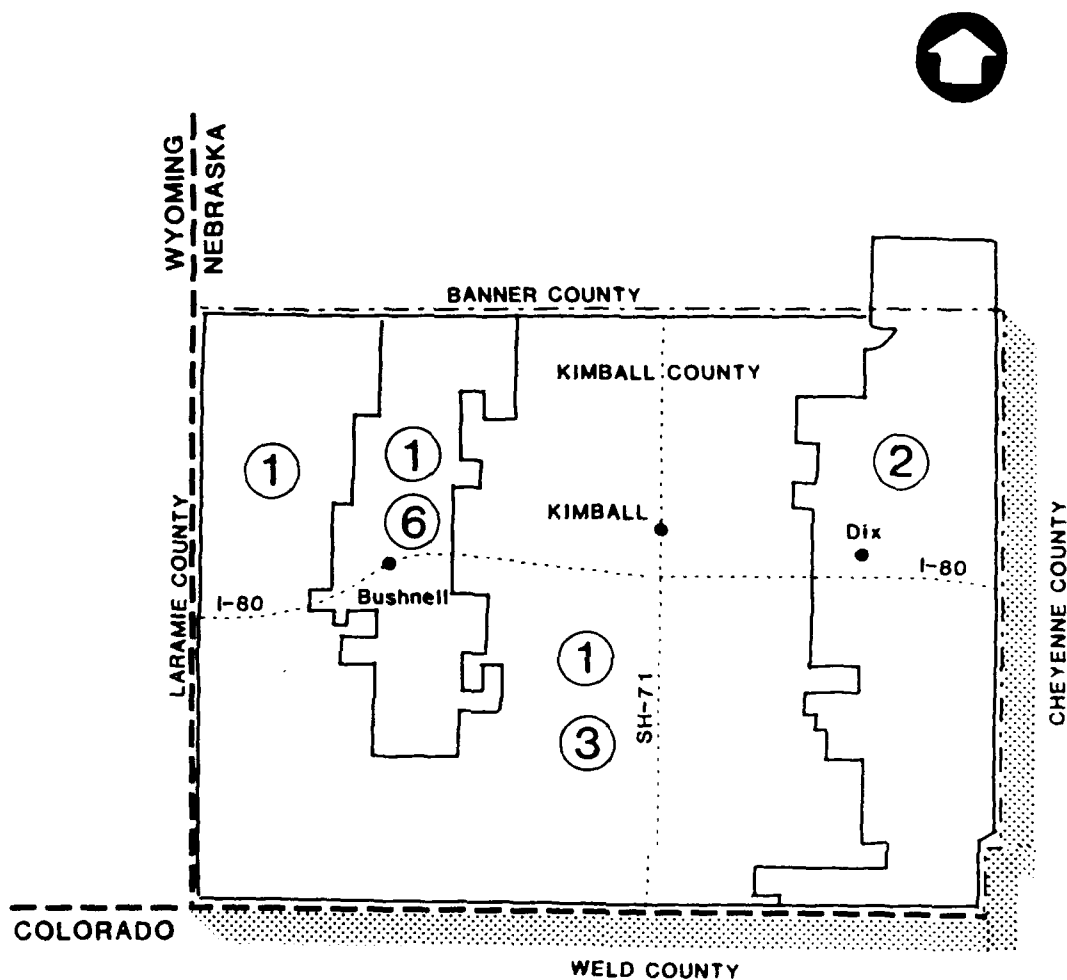


FIGURE 7.5.1-1 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, KIMBALL COUNTY

- o Class IV includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 100,000 or more and less than 200,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;
- o Class V includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 200,000 or more that maintains both elementary grades and high school grades under the direction of a single school board; and
- o Class VI includes any school district that maintains only a high school.

Kimball County has one Class VI school (Kimball County High School), one Class II school (Dix Public School), and two Class I schools (Bushnell and Kimball Public Schools).

#### 7.5.1.1.1 Students

Ten years of public school fall enrollments for grades K-6, 7-8, and 9-12 for Kimball County public schools are displayed in Table 7.5.1-1. Kindergarten is not mandatory in Nebraska but is widely offered.

Table 7.5.1-1

#### TEN YEARS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FALL ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE CATEGORY FOR KIMBALL COUNTY (1973-1982)

Grade Category	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
K-6	789	738	582	532	536	490	487	521	524	536
7-8	292	288	256	207	182	164	166	146	149	146
9-12	<u>527</u>	<u>492</u>	<u>415</u>	<u>439</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>364</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>295</u>
TOTAL:	1,608	1,518	1,253	1,178	1,178	1,089	1,048	1,031	999	977

Source: Nebraska State Department of Education Records, Reports from County Superintendent of Schools, 1973-74 through 1982-83.

From fall 1973 to fall 1982 the following enrollment changes occurred: 32.1-percent decrease for elementary, a 50.0-percent decrease for junior high, a 44.0-percent decrease for high school, and a 39.2-percent decrease overall. This compares with a 5-year, 17.1-percent decrease overall and a 1-year, 2.2-percent decrease for county schools overall. This declining enrollment pattern is explained by a declining birthrate, the outmigration of population following completion of the Minuteman Missile III installations in western Nebraska in the early 1970s, and the decline in population after the petroleum production boom in the past 5 years.

#### 7.5.1.1.2 Staffing

The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) classroom teachers and the pupil-to-teacher ratios are given in Table 7.5.1-2.

The pupil-to-teacher ratios do not include ungraded special enrollment. In the 4 years, the highest pupil-to-teacher ratio was in 1981 at 13.3, and the lowest was 12.2 in 1980. The low ratio in 1980 was due to a larger number of FTE teachers, in 1981 the staff was reduced by 9.1. In going from peak-impact conditions to post-impact during the Minuteman project, the resulting staff reduction came from normal attrition; and there was only one case of a position being terminated.

The fall 1982 salary schedule for teachers at Kimball County High School and Elementary is provided in Table 7.5.1-3.

The 1982 teacher salaries for Kimball County High School and Elementary ranged from \$12,550 to \$23,957. At Bushnell the lowest salary was \$10,400 and at Dix it was \$12,400.

Table 7.5.1-2

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT CLASSROOM TEACHERS AND  
PUPIL-TO-TEACHER RATIOS  
KIMBALL COUNTY  
(1979-1982)

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Teachers (FTE)	80.5	84.3	75.2	75.5
Pupil-to-Teacher Ratios <sup>1</sup>	13.0	12.2	13.3	12.9

Note: <sup>1</sup> Ratios expressed as 12.2 rather than 12.2:1.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Schools, Reports from County Superintendents 1979-80 through 1982-83.

Table 7.5.1-3

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM 1982 TEACHER SALARIES  
PREPARATION LEVEL FOR KIMBALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

<u>Preparation Level</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>	<u>Maximum Salary</u>
Kimball County High School & Elementary		
BA	\$12,550	\$14,558
BA+ 9 units	12,801	16,129
BA+ 18 units	13,052	17,098
BA+ 27 units	13,303	18,092
BA+ 36 units or MA	13,554	20,466
MA in field	13,805	21,535
MA+ 9 units	14,056	22,630
MA+ 18 units	14,432	23,957

Source: "Salary Schedules and Fringe Benefits," 1982 Nebraska State Education Association.

7.5.1.1.3 Services

7.5.1.1.3.1 Special Education Programs

In Kimball County there were 82 children diagnosed as handicapped in 1982. These students generally received at least 3 hours of special education a week, some of which was contracted from the regional Educational Service Unit at Scottsbluff. The 1977 federal legislation P.L. 94-142 required a special education student to be enrolled in the least restrictive environment so attempts have been made to mainstream the students into regular classrooms as much as possible.

7.5.1.1.3.2 Gifted Programs

Kimball public schools offer a gifted program in line with the State's policy to encourage enrichment programs. At the elementary level, gifted students are identified as a result of standardized testing, and are offered in-class enrichment opportunities.

At the high school level, a student can apply for independent study through a staff sponsor with final approval by the principal. Generally, these students are academically talented, though this is not a criterion for the study programs. The staff sponsor writes up the goals of the project and establishes

the requirements necessary for the student to receive credit. Once the project is complete, a grade and credit are given. Examples of such projects are developing computer programs in Fortran and Pascal, building a horse trailer, and earning a pilot's license.

#### 7.5.1.1.3.3 Nonpublic Schools

There are no nonpublic schools in Kimball County.

#### 7.5.1.1.4 Facilities

A facilities study was conducted in the Kimball school system in 1982. The study covered site, building services, instructional services, special areas and services, and food service facilities. A subcommittee of 11 members evaluated all school facilities including the Senior High, Mary Lynch Elementary, West Elementary, and the Middle School. School personnel evaluated their own facilities rather than evaluating all school facilities as a subcommittee. In general, the condition of the school facilities ranges from good to excellent, the buildings have been well maintained. The Kimball County High School was constructed in the 1960s in response to the impact created by the Minuteman project. There is excess capacity in Kimball County including one building with eight classrooms that is now used for storage. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on Kimball County public schools.

There are approximately 99,000 square feet of assignable classroom space in Kimball County which includes around 100 classrooms. There are 117 school buses in Kimball County with an additional 4 vans that are used at the high school. These buses are routinely maintained and replaced periodically.

#### 7.5.1.1.5 Post-Secondary Education

There are no post-secondary educational institutions in Kimball County. Residents of Kimball County can take correspondence courses through the Division of Continuing Studies at the University of Nebraska. Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska, is the closest state college (approximately 150 miles from Kimball). Nebraska Western College in Scottsbluff is the closest junior college (approximately 50 miles from Kimball). An adult education program is offered in Kimball in cooperation with the Kimball County High School.

#### 7.5.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 7.5.1.2.1 Students

Future trends in student enrollments were projected for the Kimball County school system by a mean survival ratio method used by the Nebraska Department of Education. This model projects enrollments over a 10-year period by adding the average change from grade to grade by increments to the last enrollment in the initial grade. These projections favorably compared to the age cohort survival population projections. This model was chosen because it projects by grade and not age ranges.

The projected enrollments for the Kimball County schools are displayed in Table 7.5.1-4.

These projections show an overall 1.0-percent, 5-year decrease in 1987 from the 1982 base year and a 12.8-percent increase in 1992. Broken down by grade category, a 6.9-percent increase is projected for elementary enrollments in 1987 and a 10.7-percent decrease is projected for secondary enrollments in 1987. However, in 1992, a cumulative 28.2-percent increase is projected for the elementary enrollments and a 5.9-percent decrease is projected for the secondary enrollments. Clearly, the projected elementary enrollment increases are not offset by the projected secondary enrollment decreases. In the next few years, enrollments are projected to increase overall in the Kimball County school system.

#### 7.5.1.2.2 Staffing

Future trends for FTE teachers are projected based upon the existing conditions in the Kimball County school system (pupil-to-FTE teacher ratios). The noncertified counts were not available, but it is important to note the vital function played by the support staff for the operation of a school. Presumably as enrollments increase, a certain number of additional support staff are required at fixed intervals of increased enrollment. For example, 1 bus driver may be required for less than 60 students but 2 will be needed once the capacity of the bus is reached or a change of bus routing is required.

The FTE teacher projections for the Kimball County school system are shown in Table 7.5.1-5.

This projection shows an increased number of FTE teachers of 9.9 in 1992. Most of the needed teachers would be at the elementary level.

#### 7.5.1.2.3 Educational Services

Because of the special nature of educational services (special education and gifted programs), no baseline projections are made. Most likely, the present curriculum will continue to be well-rounded at the secondary level. It is expected that the results of the report of President Reagan's Task Force on Education will have some influence on future programs, not necessarily requiring additional staffing.

#### 7.5.1.2.4 Facilities

In 1973, the Kimball County school system enrolled 1,608 students. In 1982, the total enrollment was 977 students. The highest projected enrollment in the next 10 years is around 1,100 students. Because the enrollments have been at a peak and were adequately accommodated, another peak enrollment will not strain the facilities in the Kimball County schools. Presently there are extra classrooms in the Kimball County school system that are being used for storage. The schools have been well maintained, and it is likely the schools will continue to be supported by the communities. Since the buses are also presently well maintained, this pattern is expected to continue.

Table 7.5.1-4

TEN YEARS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
FALL ENROLLMENT BASELINE PROJECTIONS  
BY GRADE CATEGORY  
FOR THE KIMBALL COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
(1983-1992)

Grade Category	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
K-6 (1982 Actual = 536)	529	527	540	542	573	595	627	655	674	687
7-8 (1982 Actual = 146)	138	153	153	147	134	140	145	139	149	165
9-12 (1982 Actual = 295)	297	270	266	268	260	266	254	255	251	250
TOTAL: (1982 Actual = 977)	964	950	959	957	967	1,001	1,026	1,049	1,074	1,102

Source: Nebraska Department of Education 1983 Projection Model, Mezz Survival Ratio Method.

Table 7.5.1-5

TEN YEARS OF STAFF BASELINE PROJECTIONS  
FOR FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT TEACHERS  
KIMBALL COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
(1983-1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Teachers (FTE) (1982 Actual = 75.5)	74.7	73.6	74.3	74.2	75.0	77.6	79.5	81.3	83.3	85.4

Source: Table 7.5.1-4 and Nebraska Department of Education, "Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Schools 1982-1983."

#### 7.5.1.2.5 Post-Secondary Education

Because adult education enrollment is based upon program availability and need, future enrollments are not projected.

#### 7.5.1.3 Project Impacts

##### 7.5.1.3.1 Students

The student impact population in Kimball County is projected to be 21 students in 1988 and 79 students in 1989. Of the 21 students, 12 are projected to be elementary and 9 secondary. Of the 79 students, 45 are projected to be elementary and 34 secondary.

##### 7.5.1.3.2 Staffing

Based upon the 1982 pupil-to-teacher ratio of 12.9, it is projected that 2 additional teachers will be needed in 1988 and 4 more in 1989.

Often, transient students create problems related to internal school organization, staffing, and programs to minimize educational interruption and personal readjustment due to the relocation. Also, because of the frequent interruptions and changes in their learning environments, transient children may require disproportionately higher special education and remedial instruction. Therefore, a slightly greater commitment to special education by the existing staff may be needed as a result of the project than would have otherwise been the case. Similarly, children in the impact population may benefit from gifted or enriched programs requiring additional staff commitment in that area.

##### 7.5.1.3.3 Educational Services

Based upon the previous discussion in Section 7.5.1.3.2, special education and enrichment programs may increase slightly more than would have otherwise been the case.

##### 7.5.1.3.4 Facilities

Under baseline conditions, the Kimball County school system could handle an additional 900 students, or approximately 1,800 students in total, with some program reorganization. Therefore, it is clear the Kimball County school system can handle all the projected impact enrollment during the period of the project with no difficulty.

In 1989 there is a projected need for one additional school bus as a result of the project, assuming at least half of the projected impact students will be riding the bus.

##### 7.5.1.3.5 Post-Secondary Education

It is projected that offerings in adult education will be increased as a result of the project.



#### 7.5.1.4 Mitigative Measures

- o The hiring of 2 additional teachers in the fall of 1988 and 4 more in the fall of 1989. This mitigation measure would be effective in providing the quality of education to students similar to 1982 standards. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation measure is the Kimball County school system.
- o Develop a mechanism to provide additional financial resources to schools that experience unanticipated impacts. This mitigation measure would be effective in alleviating those additional impacts that may occur to specific schools that may not have been planned prior to project construction. If selected this mechanism should be established in 1988 prior to project-related enrollments. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation is the Kimball County school system.
- o Institute a monitoring program to allow determination of those schools whose capacities have been exceeded by the impact enrollment as well as those unmet needs that, left unmet, will lead to problems among the staff and other students. This mitigation measure, if selected, should be implemented in early 1988 to allow the School District to better coordinate its impact planning efforts. Monitoring will allow the Kimball County school system to be more efficient in its handling of these impacts. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation measure is the Kimball County school system.

#### 7.6 Special Districts - Fire Protection

##### 7.6.1 Baseline Description

The Kimball Fire Department and the Kimball Rural Fire District share volunteers and the fire station, though firefighting vehicles are owned separately. There are 39 volunteer firefighters including a chief and assistant chief.

The fire station is located in Kimball. Built in the 1950s, it has recently been reroofed and is in good condition. The building contains 3,500 square feet and is used to house the 8 pieces of firefighting equipment. There is additional space at the rear of the building used as a meeting hall. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on the Kimball Fire Department.

Firefighting vehicles include five pumpers, a "quick-attack" unit, one tanker, and one ambulance/rescue vehicle. The ambulance is used primarily to back up private ambulance service operating under contract to the County. Of the firefighting vehicles, the City owns three, the Rural Fire District owns four, and one unit is jointly owned. Six of these vehicles are over 15-years old and 2 are reported to be in poor condition. Years and capacities of the Kimball Fire Department and Rural Fire District equipment are listed in Appendix E.

The Kimball Fire Department serves the city of Kimball. The Kimball Rural

Fire District includes an area running north and south through the county about 15 miles wide, centering on the city of Kimball. Kimball has a fire insurance rating of six while the rural area is rated eight.

#### **7.6.2 Projected Baseline**

Under baseline conditions the population of Kimball County is projected to decline slightly. This virtually stable population is not projected to require any changes in volunteers, firefighting vehicles, or fire station space needs for the Kimball Rural Fire District or the Kimball Fire Department through 1992.

#### **7.6.3 Project Impacts**

Under project impacts, the population of the area served by the Kimball Fire Department and the Kimball Rural Fire District will remain essentially stable at about 3,700 persons as under baseline conditions, except for project-related increases of 75 persons over baseline in 1988 and 300 persons over baseline in 1989. These increases would nominally create the need for an additional volunteer in 1988 and a total of three additional volunteers in 1989 but no other increased need in these two agencies. As a practical matter, however, because of the small absolute size and short duration of these increases, no changes are projected in the volunteers, vehicles, or facilities for the Kimball Fire Department or the Kimball Rural Fire District.

#### **7.6.4 Mitigative Measures**

Due to the lack of impacts from the project, no mitigative measures are needed.

### **7.7 Kimball County**

#### **7.7.1 Human Services**

##### **7.7.1.1 Baseline Description**

###### **7.7.1.1.1 Introduction**

With the exception of a social services office, a nursing home, and a senior center, there are few human services facilities located in Kimball. A representative of the Sidney Community Action Agency visits Kimball regularly (using the local Head Start offices), as does a speech therapist from the Panhandle Mental Health Center in Scottsbluff, and a caseworker from the Sidney Mental Health Center satellite facility.

###### **7.7.1.1.2 Inventory of Services**

The following human services are available to Kimball County residents:

##### **Department of Social Services**

Income maintenance and social service programs.

##### **Community Action Agency**

Nutrition, immunization, weatherizing, and training services.

**Kimball County Manor**

Nursing and housing services for the elderly.

**Concerned Parents Group**

Sponsorship of youth alternative activities.

Human services, other than those listed above, are available to residents of Kimball County through regional facilities located in Scottsbluff, Gering, and Sidney. Services are occasionally available in Kimball itself from staff who travel to Kimball (e.g., Panhandle Mental Health, Community Action). These agencies are discussed in Section 8.14.

**7.7.1.1.3 Baseline Description of Selected Agencies****7.7.1.1.3.1 Community Action Agency**

Community Action services in Kimball are provided through the Community Action Agency in Gering. An outreach worker is available in Kimball on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Services provided include WIC (services for expectant mothers and nutritional services for children under age five); distribution of government-supplied commodities (such as cheese) and food vouchers; a free immunization clinic for children of school age; a home weatherization program; and acceptance of applications for the CETA program. Most applications are presently training as nurses aides. The outreach worker cooperates closely with the Public Welfare Office and with the local Head Start program. Referrals to other agencies are provided.

The principal unmet needs cited are food, shelter, and transportation assistance to transients. A local church provides some assistance to transients staying in Kimball, but more resources are needed.

The Kimball County Community Action Agency staff consists of one outreach worker. Staff size has been reduced in recent years. The current staff member also works in Sidney 2 days of each week. Office space is shared with the local Head Start program.

The client population consists principally of low-income households. Local population characteristics result in few minority clients. Migrant workers are served, but the clientele consists mostly of local families and individuals.

**7.7.1.1.3.2 Department of Social Services**

Until recently, the Department of Social Services has been a County department. It is now a branch of the Nebraska State Department of Social Services. This change has come about through the block granting process.

The Kimball County office administers income maintenance programs (e.g., AFDC, food stamps, LIEAP), including acceptance of applications, certification of eligibility, and issuance of benefits. It also administers social service programs including day care, transportation, homemaker services, child abuse/neglect casework, and medical services for the aged, blind, and disabled. The agency administers federal commodity distribution programs

(e.g., cheese, other foodstuffs). Under a general assistance program, indigents are provided food and shelter on an emergency basis.

The Department Administrator sees no unmet needs in Kimball County. The economy has been declining in recent years, resulting in a loss of funds to support recreational facilities, but the loss has not been serious.

Because of the present shift (County to State) in the jurisdiction of the Social Service offices, the Administrator presently has no annual budget. The office building is presently owned by the County. Administrative program costs in addition to transfer payments and purchase of services are for staff salaries and benefits.

The staff consists of the Department Administrator, two income maintenance technicians, and one social service worker. The facility occupies about 500 sq ft in a small office building.

The caseload at any given time is approximately 250 cases. Most cases are low income; the households are mostly white. Indigents, generally transients, vary in number from month to month. Those with families range from two to ten in any given month.

#### 7.7.1.1.3.3 Panhandle Mental Health Center

The Panhandle Mental Health Center in Scottsbluff provides therapy, consultation, referral, and related services to residents of the Nebraska Panhandle including Kimball County. Approximately 8 percent of the center's total clientele are residents of Kimball County.

#### 7.7.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 7.7.1.2.1 Community Action Agency

In Kimball County all programs currently provided (Women and Infant Children, Head Start, Weatherization, and Immunization) are likely to be maintained at the current level.

In addition to the existing programs, a food pantry program which provides emergency food assistance to needy families should be instituted in Kimball.

The client-to-population ratio for Community Action services is 1:69. There are no changes anticipated for this ratio. Because of the nature and limitations of the programs provided, there will be no change in the types of clients served.

The existing staff-to-case ratio is 1:110 for Women and Infant Children and Weatherization programs, and 1:5 children for the Head Start program. No new programs will change this ratio. There are currently no plans for new outreach staff members; the existing staff is adequate to cover service demands. There is no staffing standard applied to this agency in Kimball County. If the suggested standard of 1 social worker to 80 families is applied, the current caseload in Kimball County is below this standard.

The existing facilities are more than adequate to cover future caseloads in the county; they are in good repair and contain adequate space for staff and program needs.

No current needs, other than the food pantry program, are foreseen for the future.

Baseline future staffing and clientele projections for 1983, 1987, and 1992 are based on population projections for the county and current levels of service. The 1983 staff level of 1.5 FTE for Head Start and 0.5 FTE for Women and Infant Children and Weatherization programs are not projected to change through 1992 under baseline future population growth. Current (1983) clientele for Women and Infant Children (45), Head Start (15), and Weatherization (10) programs are not projected to change between 1983 and 1991.

#### 7.7.1.2.2 Department of Social Services, Kimball County

The Kimball County Department of Social Services Administrator indicates that the Department is handling all social service and income maintenance problems adequately. Existing programs should be maintained; no new programs are planned.

The current client-to-population ratio is 1:14. This ratio is projected to remain constant from 1984 to 1992. If caseloads continue to increase, with no provision for additional staff, the client-to-population ratio would increase. Kimball County has regularly experienced an influx of transients in the area, due to the proximity of the highway, oil development, and the past missile projects. This influx is likely to continue in the future. Caseload increases generally involve young people, singles, and young marrieds more frequently than elderly people.

The staff-to-client ratio is currently 1:85, 1 social worker to 50 cases, 1 public assistance worker to 145 cases. The overall ratio is projected to 1:85 to 1:84 by 1992.

There is immediate need for a part-time clerical staff person. If caseloads continue at current levels or increase, there will be a need for an additional professional staff member. The Administrator would like to achieve an overall staff-to-case ratio of 1:68. If the County Department of Social Services can not handle a particular problem, it channels all requests for assistance to the appropriate regional agency.

The current facility is adequate to serve the population of the county in the future.

Areas of concern include Supplemental Security Income clients, mental retardation, and alcohol and drug abuse. The Department of Social Services deals directly with only Supplemental Security Income.

Baseline future staffing and clientele projections for 1983, 1987 and 1992 are shown in Table 7.7.1-1.

Staffing and clientele estimates are based on baseline county population projections, existing programs and service levels.

7.7.1.2.3 Panhandle Mental Health Center

The therapy, consultation, and referral services provided by the Panhandle Mental Health Center in Kimball County will continue at the current service level.

No new programs are planned for the near future, although the therapist feels there are two programs which would be beneficial. These programs represent unmet needs in the community: a parenting program for young parents, since most of the mental health cases are family-oriented, and a drug/alcohol counseling program.

The current regionwide client-to-population ratio is 1:2,857. No change in this ratio is anticipated.

There are no anticipated changes in numbers of clients or type of clients served unless new programs are instituted.

In 1983 there were a total of 62 cases in Kimball County. Caseloads and client visits fluctuate throughout the year. The caseloads are small because the mental health worker only visits once a week. Others in need of service may travel for assistance to such areas as Scottsbluff.

There are no plans for increased staffing for the future. No staffing standard is applied in Kimball County. The intent of the agency is to maintain the current staff-to-client ratio despite decreases in federal fundings.

Table 7.7.1-1

KIMBALL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
BASELINE STAFF AND CLIENTELE  
(1983, 1987, 1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1992</u>
Staff	4	4	4
Clientele	340	338	336

The Catholic school provides adequate space and privacy for the mental health therapist. No facility requirements are foreseen.

Baseline future staffing and clientele projections for 1983, 1987 and 1991 are shown in Table 7.7.1-2.

Table 7.7.1-2

PANHANDLE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER  
BASELINE FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF AND CLIENTELE  
(1983, 1987, 1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1992</u>
Staff(FTE)	0.2	0.2	0.2
Clientele	62	62	61

Staffing and client estimates are based on baseline population projections, and existing programs and service levels.

7.7.1.3 Project Impacts

7.7.1.3.1 Community Action Agency

Due to income qualifications and participation limitations, the project impact on Kimball County Community Action services is considered negligible. Principal impacts are considered to be in the areas of food, shelter, and transportation assistance to transients. Also the Emergency Food Pantry program would be an important program to institute in Kimball. Housing, parenting, and child care skills and mental health were cited as areas of highest impact.

No specific unmet needs associated with potential project impacts were identified. Food, transportation, and shelter assistance to transients will be intensified with the project. The outreach worker feels that other human service agencies will experience greater impact than the Community Action services. Low and high clientele estimates for the project impacts have been projected for 1987, 1988, and 1989. The low estimate represents client projections into the future based on existing conditions and service levels. The high figures represent the client projections based on existing conditions, plus the potential for disproportional demand.

Incremental clientele estimates for the Women and Infant Children program show one additional client in 1987 and in 1988, and a low projection of three additional clients, and a high projection of six additional clients in 1989. For the Head Start program, no additional clients are projected for 1987 and 1988; in 1989, a low estimate of one and a high of two additional children are projected. For the Weatherization program, no additional clients are projected for 1987 and 1988; in 1989, one additional client is projected for both low and high estimates. No additional facilities will be required to handle increased clientele.

The impact portion of the total future service level for the low estimate in both 1987 and 1988 is 1.8 percent, and for 1989 is 6.7 percent. The impact portion of the total future service level under the high estimate for both 1987 and 1988 is 1.8 percent, and 11.7 percent for the high estimate.

Table 7.7.2-1

KIMBALL COUNTY HOSPITAL  
BALANCE SHEETS - JUNE 30, 1982 AND 1981

Assets	Liabilities and Fund Balance	
	1982	1981
<u>Unrestricted Fund</u>		
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 111,585	\$ 117,323
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$75,000 in 1982 and \$56,000 in 1981		
Due from Medicare and Medicaid Intermediaries	34,262	20,853
Accrued taxes receivable from County	9,313	8,079
Inventories	112,184	93,334
Prepaid expenses	11,527	10,201
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 529,619</b>	<b>\$ 377,765</b>
Board-Designated Investments (For replacement of property and equipment)	\$ 239,393	\$ 225,232
Property and Equipment, at cost:		
Land	\$ 2,358	\$ 2,358
Building	867,615	783,176
Equipment	417,155	394,979
Construction in progress	104,041	39,815
Less - Accumulated depreciation	\$1,391,169	\$1,220,328
	\$ 546,209	\$ 497,405
	\$ 844,960	\$ 722,923
	<b>\$1,613,972</b>	<b>\$1,325,920</b>
<u>Restricted Fund</u>		
Due From Unrestricted Fund	\$ 56,194	\$ -
Certificates of Deposit and Savings Account	385,939	662,899
Accrued Interest Receivable	2,458	22,571
	<b>\$ 444,591</b>	<b>\$ 685,470</b>
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 58,495	\$ 89,551
Accrued expenses	52,706	36,927
Due to restricted fund	56,194	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$ 167,395</b>	<b>\$ 126,478</b>
<u>Fund Balance:</u>		
Balance, beginning of year, as previously reported		\$ 785,123
Restatement due to reclassifications and errors in previously issued financial statements and to record accrued vacation payable		115,284
Balance, as restated	\$1,199,442	\$ 900,407
Excess (deficit) of revenues over expenses, per accompanying statement	89,552	(23,598)
Restricted contributions	6,418	12,979
Transfers from Restricted Fund	151,165	309,654
Balance, end of year	\$1,446,577	\$1,199,442
	<b>\$1,613,972</b>	<b>\$1,325,920</b>
<u>Restricted Fund</u>		
Fund Balance:		
Balance, beginning of year, as previously reported		\$ 962,072
Restatement due to errors in previously issued financial statements		20,671
Balance, as restated	\$ 685,470	\$ 982,743
Transfers to County	(127,530)	(120,793)
Interest income	37,816	133,174
Transfers to Unrestricted Fund	(151,165)	(309,654)
	<b>\$ 444,591</b>	<b>\$ 685,470</b>

The accompanying notes to financial statements are an integral part of these balance sheets.

Source: Financial Statements, Kimball County Hospital, 1982.



#### 7.7.2.1.2 Emergency Medical Services

Emergency transport is provided by Kimball County Ambulance Service which has 10 trained emergency medical technicians. Three of the ambulance service emergency medical technicians are taking entry level paramedic training. The fire department also has an ambulance available as a backup unit. The ambulance service is located 4 blocks from the hospital, and provides 24-hour radio dispatch service. Two of the RNs at the hospital teach CPR and advanced coronary life support classes. Kimball County is tied into the 911 emergency phone service.

#### 7.7.2.1.3 County Health Department

There is no county health department in Kimball County. One of the family practice physicians also serves as the county physician. The hospital coordinates some of the traditional public health functions including prenatal classes, blood pressure clinics for senior citizens, and free immunization clinics. A volunteer home health service comprising six to eight nonprofessional individuals is supervised by an RN and coordinated by the hospital.

#### 7.7.2.1.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

##### 7.7.2.1.4.1 Nursing Homes

Kimball Manor Nursing Home is the only extended care facility available in the county. This facility is County-owned and operated; it includes 70 intermediate care beds and 6 domiciliary (board and room) beds. The average occupancy is 98.8 percent. The service area covers Kimball and Banner counties, with a few patients from Cheyenne County. There are no physicians on staff; each resident has his or her own doctor. Nursing staff includes 4 RNs and 4 LPNs. Additional professional personnel include a part-time degreed social worker, 8 core staff members, an activity director, and a consulting dietician 2 times per month. A speech therapist, a physical therapist, and an occupational therapist are available on a consulting basis. Total staff for the facility is approximately 60 employees, many part time. Revenues and expenditures for Kimball County Manor for FY 1979-1980 are shown in Table 7.7.2-2.

##### 7.7.2.1.4.2 Dentists

There are two dentists located in Kimball County. Additional dental services are available in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and Cheyenne, Wyoming.

#### 7.7.2.2 Projected Baseline

##### 7.7.2.2.1 Hospital Facilities and Personnel

Baseline projections for Kimball County indicate a slight decrease in population between 1983 and 1992. This reduction would not affect hospital services in Kimball County. Existing levels of service would be maintained.

##### 7.7.2.2.2 Emergency Medical Services

The projected decrease in population would have no effect on provision of emergency medical services in Kimball County.

Table 7.7.2-2

KIMBALL COUNTY MANOR  
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS  
(Year Ended June 30, 1980)

Revenues		
Resident services		\$ 487,484
Other		<u>19,105</u>
		506,589
Operating expenses		
Resident services	\$ 389,695	
Plant operation and maintenance	35,417	
General and administrative	91,813	
Depreciation	<u>34,155</u>	<u>551,080</u>
Loss from operations		( 44,491)
Other income (expense)		
Property taxes	62,415	
Contributions	1,772	
Interest income	2,080	
Interest expense	<u>( 32,719)</u>	<u>33,548</u>
NET LOSS		\$( 10,943)

Source: Financial Statements, Kimball County Manor, 1980.

#### 7.7.2.2.3 Public Health Department

Future reduced population levels would have no effect on existing public health services coordinated through the hospital.

#### 7.7.2.2.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

The Kimball Manor Nursing Home, Family Clinic, and dentists in Kimball County would not be significantly affected by the decrease in population. There may be slight reductions in the number of patients.

#### 7.7.2.3 Project Impacts

##### 7.7.2.3.1 Hospital Facilities and Personnel

The project would have a negligible impact on hospital facilities and personnel in Kimball County. Based on a maximum increase of 300 persons in peak year 1989, existing facilities and personnel could accommodate the increase with no expansions.

##### 7.7.2.3.2 Emergency Medical Services

The small increase in population would have a negligible effect on provision of emergency medical services. Emergency medical services personnel and facilities should be provided at the construction sites to reduce impacts on emergency medical services due to construction accidents.

##### 7.7.2.3.3 Public Health Department

The small increase in population would have a negligible impact on provision of public health services coordinated through Kimball County Hospital.

##### 7.7.2.3.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

The Kimball Manor Nursing Home, Family Clinic, and dentists in Kimball County would be minimally impacted by the small increase in population.

#### 7.7.2.4 Mitigative Measures

- o There are no significant impacts on health care facilities in Kimball County. However, an emergency vehicle should be maintained at the staging site if necessary, as described above. Health planning officials in the county should be updated on potential population impacts, as necessary, in order to monitor possible unanticipated impacts on services. These measures should be implemented starting in 1987, the first year of project activity in the County, by the health service providers and planners.

### **7.7.3     Kimball County: Housing Resources**

#### **7.7.3.1     Baseline Description**

##### **7.7.3.1.1     Housing Stock**

Year-round housing stock in the city of Kimball increased slightly between 1970 and 1980 as shown in Table 7.7.3-1. The increase of 12 units represented only a 1-percent change for that 10-year period. By comparison, housing stock for all Kimball County decreased by 31 units or a negative 2 percent. Approximately 63 percent of all year-round housing units in Kimball County are found in the city of Kimball. The remainder is found in the communities of Bushnell and Dix, and other areas throughout the county. The growth in housing stock since the 1980 Census has also been small according to data distributed by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. The total county housing starts for 1980 through 1982 were as follows: 1980-one, 1981-four, and 1982-three. For the city of Kimball, the state agency indicated housing starts of one in 1980, three in 1981, and three in 1982. These housing starts were classified as single family for both the city and county.

##### **7.7.3.1.2     Housing Mix**

The housing mix for the city and county as shown in Table 7.7.3-1 shows that single-family units make up the largest housing category. There has not been a dramatic shift in the mix, but mobile home units showed the only positive change experienced between 1970 and 1980. The location of housing types can also be derived from the table. In 1980, the city of Kimball contained 61 percent of the total single family, 74 percent of the total multifamily, and 57 percent of the mobile homes. Utilizing housing mix as an indication of housing preference, the 1970 and 1980 Census data present a stable housing preference condition for the population base. The city of Kimball as a total percentage of Kimball County by type of unit in 1970 was similar. The location of housing types for 1970 was representative of the 1980 conditions.

##### **7.7.3.1.3     Housing Conditions**

Housing conditions are expressed in terms of plumbing facilities and persons per room for the city of Kimball and Kimball County. Table 7.7.3-2 shows that only 30 units in the entire county and 14 units in the city in 1980 lacked complete plumbing for exclusive use. As a percentage of year-round housing units, both city and county fell below 2 percent for this housing condition characteristic. A comparison of the 1970 and 1980 Census indicates that 41 units in the city and 42 units in the entire county had been either improved and/or removed from the housing stock during this period. Another indicator of housing conditions is the number of persons living in crowded units. The Census defines a crowded housing unit as one with over 1.01 persons per room. Table 7.7.3-2 shows for both 1970 and 1980, for the city and county, over 90 percent of the units were considered uncrowded. By 1980 less than 2 percent of the occupied housing units exceeded the 1.01 or less persons per room category.

Table 7.7.3-1

HOUSING MIX  
CITY OF KIMBALL AND KIMBALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1970 AND 1980

<u>Housing Type</u>	<u>1970</u>		<u>1980</u>		<u>Change 1970 - 1980</u>	
	<u>Year-Round Housing Units</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>Year-Round Housing Units</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u># of Units</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
<u>City of Kimball</u>						
Single Family	917	73%	900	71%	-17	- 2%
Multifamily	227	18%	225	18%	- 2	- 1%
Mobile Home	113	9%	144	11%	31	27%
TOTAL:	1,257	100%	1,269	100%	12	1%
<u>Kimball County</u>						
Single Family	1,483	72%	1,465	73%	-18	- 1%
Multifamily	310	15%	304	15%	- 6	- 2%
Mobile Home	271	13%	251	12%	-20	- 7%
TOTAL:	2,064	100%	2,020	100%	-44	- 2%

Note: N/A - Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1970 and 1980.

U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska Detailed Housing Characteristics, 1970.

Table 7.7.3-2

HOUSING CONDITIONS - (PLUMBING FACILITIES, PERSONS PER ROOM)  
CITY OF KIMBALL AND KIMBALL COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1970 AND 1980

	Year-Round Housing Units		No. Lacking Complete Plumbing for Exclusive Use		% Lacking Complete Plumbing for Exclusive Use	
	1970	1980	1970	1980	1970	1980
City of Kimball	1,257	1,269	55	14	4.4	1.1
Kimball County	2,051	2,020	72	30	3.5	1.5

	Persons per Room for Occupied Housing Units					
	1.0 or Less		% 1.0 or Less		1.01 to 1.50	
	1970	1980	1970	1980	1970	1980
City of Kimball	1,070	1,148	92.4	98.2	70	13
Kimball County	1,678	1,768	91.2	98.8	161 <sup>a</sup>	20

	Persons Per Room =		1.51 or More		% 1.51 or More	
	1970	1980	1970	1980	1970	1980
City of Kimball	1,070	1,148	8	17	1.5	.7
Kimball County	1,678	1,768	12	N/A	N/A	.1

N/A - Not applicable.

Note: a For 1970 Kimball County, the 1.01 to 1.50 category includes all persons per room over 1.01.

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1970, 1980.

#### 7.7.3.1.4 Housing Occupancy and Vacancy

The housing occupancy and vacancy status in the city of Kimball for 1980 by type of unit is illustrated in Table 7.7.3-3. The highest vacancy rate by type of unit was multifamily at 16 percent. Although the largest number of vacant units were found to be single family, the rate was only 6 percent. Mobile homes, which were the only housing type to show growth from 1970 to 1980, experienced a 6-percent vacancy rate in 1980. Note: The vacancy rate indicated is for mobile home units only. Pads are not considered in the mobile home unit supply. The total vacancy rate for the city in 1980 was 8 percent. The city experienced an identical total vacancy rate in 1970 according to the Census.

Table 7.7.3-3

#### HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND VACANCY CITY OF KIMBALL, NEBRASKA 1980

<u>Housing Type</u>	<u>Housing Units</u>	<u>Occupied</u>	<u>Vacant</u>	<u>Vacancy Rate</u>
Single Family	900	846	54	6%
Multifamily	225	188	37	16%
Mobile Homes	144	135	9	6%
TOTAL:	1,269	1,169	100	8%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1980.

Owner-occupied units totaled 824 and renter-occupied totaled 345 for the city in 1980. With 20 units listed as "for sale only," and 41 units as "for rent," the city experienced a homeowner vacancy rate of 2 percent and a rental vacancy rate of 11 percent in 1980. By comparison, the 1970 homeowner vacancy rate was also 2 percent while the rental vacancy rate was 14 percent.

#### 7.7.3.1.5 Housing Values, Prices, and Rents

The median value of owner-occupied housing for the city was \$12,200 in 1970 and increased to \$31,800 by 1980. The median monthly contract rent for the city increased from \$74 in 1970 to \$118 in 1980 for renter-occupied housing units. Of the 345 renter-occupied units in 1980, the largest number, 119, fell into the \$100 to \$149 monthly rental price range.

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development provides average selling price data by county for single-family residential units. Table 7.7.3-4 shows the average selling price for Kimball County for the years of 1979 through 1982.

Table 7.7.3-4

AVERAGE SELLING PRICE - SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL  
KIMBALL COUNTY  
1979-1982

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Sales</u>	<u>Average Selling Price</u>
1979	76	\$19,992
1980	54	\$27,581
1981	48	\$19,893
1982	45	\$25,846

Note: All dollars are in current dollars.

Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development 1983.

7.7.3.1.6 Mobile Home Parks

Two mobile home parks were identified by a 1983 survey to exist in the city of Kimball. These parks contained 162 spaces of which 40 spaces were vacant. Both parks contributed to the 24.6-percent vacancy rate.

Of the 162 total spaces in the city, only 6 have mobile home units available on a rental basis, while 156 spaces were available for owner-occupied units. Monthly space/pad rental rates for the owner-occupied residences ranged from \$60 to \$80, with a weighted average of \$67. The weighted average is based on the number of spaces. No space deposit fee was required. The monthly rental rate for a single-wide mobile home unit was \$180.

No expansion plans exist at the present time for either park.

7.7.3.1.7 Hotels and Motels

Eight hotel and motel operations were identified by a 1983 survey to exist in the city of Kimball. Three were franchise operations accounting for 75 rooms (33% of total) and 179 beds (49% of total). The 5 nonfranchise hotels contained 151 rooms (67% of total) and 190 beds (51% of total). Table 7.7.3-5 provides information on hotels and motels in the city of Kimball.



Table 7.7.3-5

HOTEL AND MOTEL CHARACTERISTICS  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1983

	Hotels		Rooms		Beds	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Franchise	3	37	75	33	179	49
Nonfranchise	5	63	151	67	190	51
TOTAL:	<u>8</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>226</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>369</u>	<u>100</u>

Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Both franchise and nonfranchise operations offered few amenities.

Four nonfranchised hotels offered cooking facilities in 16 units. No franchised operations offered this amenity.

No weekly or monthly rates were offered by any of the hotels surveyed.

Occupancy rates for nonfranchised hotels ranged, during the summer, from 50 percent to 100 percent with a weighted average of 80 percent. Franchised operations had a narrower occupancy range, from 72 percent to 93 percent with a weighted average of 81 percent, as seen in Table 7.7.3-6. Weighted averages are based on the number of rooms.

Table 7.7.3-6

HOTEL AND MOTEL OCCUPANCY RATES  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1983

	<u>Franchise</u>	<u>Nonfranchise</u>
Summer	72 - 93%	50 - 100%
Weighted Average	81%	80%
Winter	40 - 72%	10 - 50%
Weighted Average	57%	20%

Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Winter rates were significantly lower for both types of operations with nonfranchised ranging from 10 to 50 percent with a weighted average of 20 percent, and franchised ranging from 40 to 72 percent with a weighted average of 57 percent.

#### 7.7.3.1.8 Apartments

No apartment complexes containing ten units or more were identified to exist in Kimball.

#### 7.7.3.1.9 Campgrounds

Two campgrounds were identified by a 1983 survey to exist in the city of Kimball. These campgrounds contained 71 spaces of which 63 spaces were vacant resulting in an 89 percent vacancy rate. Both parks contained vacant spaces.

Rental costs ranged on a daily basis from \$7.50 to \$8.00, and cost on a weekly basis \$48. No monthly rate or deposit fees exist for the campgrounds.

All of the campgrounds surveyed can accommodate campers with 59 percent of the total spaces able to handle trailer units and motor homes. No campground was able to handle mobile home units. At the present time no expansion plans exist for either campground.

#### 7.7.3.1.10 Housing Finance

Kimball County is sparsely populated, with most of its 4,800 inhabitants concentrated in the city of Kimball. The city contains two independent commercial banks, and one savings and loan association. One of the three institutions has been decreasing its activity in real estate. There are no other real estate lending entities within the community. There is one small independent bank in the county, in Bushnell.

Housing finance is available to Kimball residents from the larger community of Sidney, located 40 miles to the east. One of the institutions in Kimball is a branch of a Sidney main office. Sidney is outside of the Area of Site Influence and thus was not surveyed.

The following data summarize trends of recent years among the local lenders in Kimball in Tables 7.7.3-7, 7.7.3-8, and 7.7.3-9.

In 1980, 14 Nebraska Mortgage Fund loans were made, in the amount of \$393,000. Since that time, however, only one such transaction has occurred.

The primary geographic area of activity of the above loans is Kimball County, although there has been a small number of transactions in Banner County, Nebraska, and eastern Laramie County, Wyoming.

Table 7.7.3-7

FIRST MORTGAGES  
CITY OF KIMBALL/KIMBALL COUNTY  
1977, 1981 AND 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Transactions</u>			<u>Dollar Value</u>		
	<u>Conventional</u>	<u>FHA</u>	<u>VA</u>	<u>Conventional</u>	<u>FHA</u>	<u>VA</u>
1977	54	3	0	\$1,488,549	\$ 95,000	\$ 0
1981	48	3	2	1,549,200	97,125	64,750
1983a	32	4	3	1,611,712	201,464	151,098

Note: a Through mid-July  
All dollars are in current dollars.  
Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Table 7.7.3-8

SECOND MORTGAGE HOUSING ACTIVITY  
CITY OF KIMBALL/KIMBALL COUNTY  
1977, 1981 AND 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Transactions</u>	<u>Dollar Value</u>
1977	0	\$ 0
1981	13	116,050
1983a	8	62,700

Note: a Through mid-July  
All dollars are in current dollars.  
Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Table 7.7.3-9

CONSTRUCTION/BUILDER SHORT-TERM LOANS  
CITY OF KIMBALL/KIMBALL COUNTY  
1977, 1981 AND 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Transactions</u>	<u>Dollar Value</u>
1977	17	\$768,300
1981	5	302,850
1983a	0	0

Note: a Through mid-July  
All dollars are in current dollars.  
Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Interest rates have varied within the past year on first mortgages from 10.0 percent on FHA to 16.5 percent conventional, with terms not exceeding 25 years and some short-term loans for periods as little as 6 months. Second mortgages are in the 14.0 to 15.0 percent range. Variable rate mortgages, with 3 to 5 year balloons and 20 to 25 year terms, are starting to be used. Construction loan activity has been limited in the past 12 months.

There has been only limited use of the secondary mortgage market. One of the interview respondents placed two loans within the past year with a regional mortgage purchasing company. Another respondent contends that he has not experienced difficulties in placing mortgages in his loan portfolio.

One local builder has been the most active in residential construction, placing from two to ten units on the market in recent years. Four other local contractors have built houses on a more irregular basis. Two prefabricated home builders also do business in Kimball. In past growth periods, the building industry has kept pace with residential needs, without a significant influx of large volume builders from outside the area.

Kimball's housing finance resources have been adequate for moderate growth in the recent past, particularly during the "mini-boom" in the 1970s associated with oil exploration. A major influx of outside capital has not been necessary.

#### 7.7.3.2 Projected Baseline

Population growth constitutes the basis and scope of housing supply for the projected baseline. The population projections and geographic allocations generated in Chapter 2.0 are formulated on a community basis, employing spatial allocation techniques. Baseline population growth is estimated on the basis of the historic growth in the community relative to the historic and projected growth rates for the county. The housing resource analyses are therefore presented at the community level.

The city of Kimball is expected to experience a housing supply growth rate of 2.6 percent from 1983 to 1992, increasing from 1,276 to 1,309 dwelling units. Annual percent increases for total year-round housing units range from a low of zero percent (to be experienced from 1983 to 1984) to a high of 0.4 percent (to be experienced from 1984 to 1985). Seventy-one percent of the housing stock is projected to be single-family homes, 18 percent multifamily, and 11 percent mobile homes. The temporary accommodations supply of 75 franchised hotel rooms, 151 nonfranchised hotel rooms and 71 campground spaces will remain constant through the baseline future period. Table 7.7.3-10 summarizes the baseline projections.

#### 7.7.3.3 Project Impacts

Population growth constitutes the basis and scope of housing supply for the project. The population projections and geographic allocations generated in Section 2.0 are formulated on a community basis, employing spatial allocation techniques. Project-related population is allocated to communities on the basis of proximity to job sites. The housing resource analyses are therefore presented at the community level.

Table 7.7.3-10

BASELINE FORECAST  
HOUSING SUPPLY  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1983-1992

Housing Type	1983-1984		1984-1985		1985-1986	
	1983	1984	Change	% Change	1985	1986
Single Family	906	906	0	0	909	912
Multi- family	230	230	0	0	231	231
Mobile Home	140	140	0	0	141	142
TOTAL Year- Round Housing Units:	1,276	1,276	0	0	1,281	1,285
					5	4
					.4	.3
	1986-1987		1987-1988		1988-1989	
	1987	1988	Change	% Change	1989	1990
Single Family	915	918	3	.3	921	924
Multi- family	232	233	1	.4	233	234
Mobile Home	142	142	0	0	143	143
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	1,289	1,293	4	.3	1,297	1,301
					4	4
					.3	.3
	1989-1990		1990-1991		1991-1992	
	1990	1991	Change	% Change	1992	1993
Single Family	924	924	0	0	924	924
Multi- family	234	234	0	0	234	234
Mobile Home	143	143	0	0	143	143
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	1,301	1,301	0	0	1,301	1,301
					0	0
					.7	.7

Table 7.7.3-10 Continued, page 2 of 2

BASELINE FORECAST  
HOUSING SUPPLY  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1983-1992

Housing Type	1990-1991		1991-1992	
	1991	<u>Change</u> <u>% Change</u>	1992	<u>Change</u> <u>% Change</u>
Single Family	926	2 .2	929	3 .3
Multi- family	235	1 .4	236	1 .4
Mobile Home	144	1 .7	144	0 0
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	1,305	4 .3	1,309	4 .3

Source: Table 2.3.3-4 and Appendix A-3.

Housing demand as a result of the project will occur in the city of Kimball beginning in 1987 and continuing through 1989. The projected vacancies can satisfy the project demand for single family and multifamily during these years. As a result of construction activities, net demand or impacts for mobile homes occurs in 1987 and 1989 but not in 1988 when projected vacancies in these units can satisfy the project demand. This reduction in demand in 1988 creates an excess supply or impact of one mobile home unit which can be absorbed in 1989 when net demand reaches its highest level. During the decline cycle, from 1990 through 1992, the excess supply of mobile home units will not be totally absorbed by the projected baseline growth. Table 7.7.3-11 summarizes the project impacts.

#### **7.7.3.4 Mitigative Measures**

Potential mitigation or preventive measures to be considered are identified below. Each measure identifies the party responsible to implement the mitigation, but not necessarily the party paying for the measure.

- o Housing demand forecasts should be produced and widely distributed within the public domain (providing buyer profile for type, size, price range, amenities, etc.). This information will be effective in estimating projected needs by type and amount and should be released and/or implemented 12 months or a building season prior to construction start-up and updated when a major change in conditions occurs. The agency responsible for implementing this mitigation is the Air Force.
- o Continuous monthly forecasting and monitoring of housing demand and housing starts during the growth cycle. This mitigation will be effective in estimating projected needs by type and amount and should assist the public and private sectors to react accordingly utilizing the best available information. The parties responsible for implementing this mitigation measure are the Air Force and appropriate public agencies.
- o Underwriting requirements for the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), Veterans Administration (VA), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal National Mortgage Association, and the Nebraska Mortgage Fund should be reviewed by local government relative to standards found in local development regulations. An incentive should be offered to builders and developers participating in these programs. This mitigation will be effective in opening up the secondary mortgage market for developers, builders and buyers. The parties responsible for implementing this mitigation measure are the local public officials.

#### **7.7.4 Regional Recreation**

Kimball County contains one water-based recreational area (Oliver Reservoir), discussed in detail in Section 10.1.

Table 7.7.3-11

PROJECT IMPACTS  
NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHANGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1984-1992

Housing Type	1984			1985			1984-1985			1986			1985-1986		
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>
Single Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Year-Round Units:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1987			1986-1987			1988			1987-1988			1989		
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>
Single Family	2	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	11	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	9	1	1	0	5	0	0	1	18	9	8	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Year-Round Units:	22	1	1	0	21	0	0	1	79	9	8	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	20	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0



Table 7.7.3-11 Continued  
PROJECT IMPACTS  
NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHANGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF KIMBALL  
1984-1992

1984-1992	1990			1989-1990			1991			1990-1991			1992			1991-1992	
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>		Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>		Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>		Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>		Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>		Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>
Single Family	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0
Multifamily	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0
Mobile Home	0	0		0	8		0	0		0	7		0	0		0	7
TOTAL Year-Round Units:	0	0		0	8		0	0		0	7		0	0		0	7
Temporary Accommodations	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0

- Notes: 1 Temporary Accommodations include hotel/motel rooms and campground spaces.  
2 Project demand is defined as total housing needs as induced by the Project.  
3 Net demand is defined as demand less net vacancy (net vacancy equals gross vacancy minus frictional vacancy).  
4 Required supply is defined as increases in supply from growth cycle conditions of the Project.  
5 Excess supply may result from decline cycle conditions of the Project when vacancies exceed projected baseline growth as shown in Table 7.7.3-10.

### **7.7.5      Transportation - Road Network**

An overview of the regional roadway network appears in Section 10.5.1.

Consideration was given to the project-related transportation impact on both the population centers and the rural portions of Kimball County. Based on available information, it became apparent that the countywide rural road network associated with the Launch Facility modifications needed detailed study. Currently available information indicates that Kimball may be a dispatch area for the project and warranted study.

#### **7.7.5.1    Baseline Description**

Interstate 80 traverses Kimball County forming the backbone of east-west travel in the region as well as the county (Figure 10.5.1-1). Old U.S. 30 parallels Interstate 80 providing access to the city of Kimball and town of Bushnell. Access to these communities is also provided by business connections with Interstate 80. State Highway 71 (Federal-Aid Primary) bisects the county serving north-south travel and providing access to the city of Kimball. State Highway 71 is a high-type, paved road except for a segment in the northern part of the county.

These roads function as arterials, while key county roads act as collectors, as shown in Figure 10.5.1-2, National Highways Functional Classification. The remaining county roads are low-type, paved or gravel, and provide local access.

Project-related routes in Kimball County and their 1983 estimated average daily traffic volumes on these roads are shown in Figure 7.7.5-1. Project-related roadways consist of transporter/erector vehicle routes, and roads functionally classified as collectors or higher.

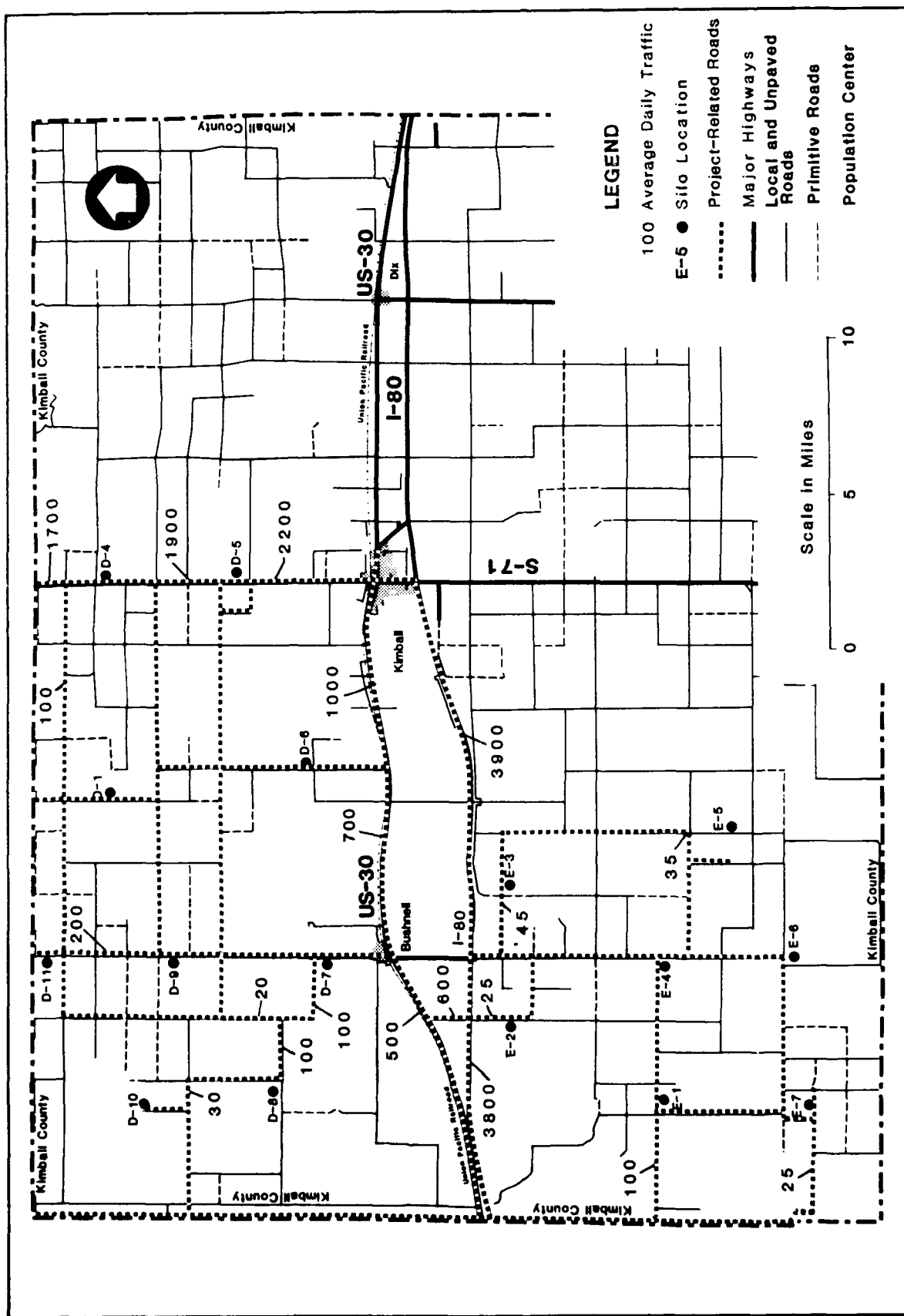
Vehicle classification count data was collected from the Nebraska Department of Roads for two locations in Kimball County. Supplementary traffic counts were carried out by the study at two locations in the county on a November 1983 weekday. Data from these supplementary counts were used to develop typical average daily traffic figures for 1983.

The locations of count stations are shown in Figure 7.7.5-2 and Table 7.7.5-1 gives details of average daily traffic and the proportion of truck traffic to total vehicles.

Figure 7.7.5-2 shows transporter/erector routes in Kimball County and the numbering system that was developed to identify those routes for the road inventory survey. Table 7.7.5-2 presents a summary of existing physical conditions on these routes. This summary includes surface type and structural classifications as well as information on associated roadway elements.

#### **7.7.5.2    Projected Baseline**

Specific consideration was given to agricultural harvest operations. Data from a representative permanent traffic counter, located in an area subject to harvest operations, were carefully studied. The Wyoming Highway Department operated a continuous automatic traffic recorder at station 190 on Wyoming State Highway 154 near Veteran in Goshen County.



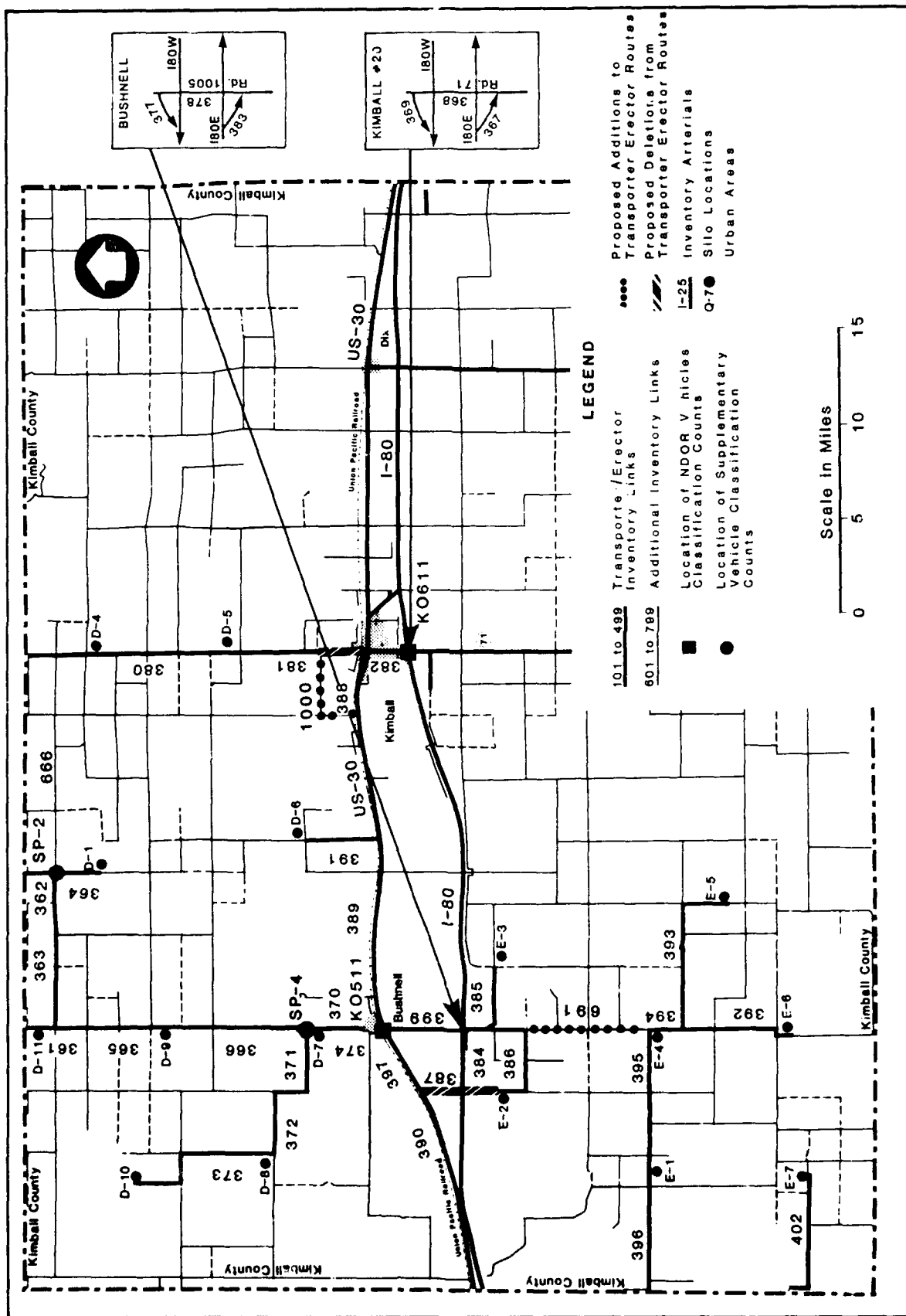


FIGURE 7.7.5-2 KIMBALL COUNTY - TRANSPORTER/ERECTOR VEHICLE ROUTES

Table 7.7.5-1  
1983 VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION DATA  
KIMBALL COUNTY

Station	Location	Number of Trucks and Buses			A.D.T. Total Vehicles
		Peak Hour	Daily Traffic	Percentage of Total Vehicles	
K0 511	Link 389 U.S. 30 (east)	N/A	96	13.4%	714
K0 511	Link 397 U.S. 30 (west)	N/A	84	16.6%	505
K0 511	Link 399	N/A	30	15.9%	189
K0 511	Link 374	N/A	67	13.1%	511
K0 611	I 80 (east)	N/A	1,499	42.9%	3,498
K0 611	I 80 (west)	N/A	1,529	38.4%	3,978
K0 611	State Highway 71 (south)	N/A	370	25.9%	1,428
K0 611	State Highway 71 (north) (Link 332)	N/A	730	24.9%	2,927
SP-2	Link 362	0	0	-	10
SP-2	Link 364	0	0	-	20
SP-2	Link 666	1	3	15.8%	19
SP-2	Link 363	1	3	33.3%	9
SP-4	Link 366	2	8	8%	99
SP-4	Link 370	1	8	5.3%	150
SP-4	Link 371	1	3	4.8%	63

Table 7.7.5-2

KIMBALL COUNTY  
TRANSPORTER ERECTOR  
ROUTES-SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

DESCRIPTION	MILEAGE
PRIMITIVE ROADS	0.00
UNIMPROVED ROADS	0.00
GRADED AND DRAINED EARTH ROADS	2.00
SOIL SURFACE ROADS	33.10
GRAVEL OR STONED ROADS NOT GRADED AND DRAINED	3.70
GRAVEL OR STONED ROADS GRADED AND DRAINED	23.85
BITUMINOUS SURFACE TREATED ROADS	0.00
LOW-TYPE MIXED BITUMINOUS ROADS	0.00
HIGH-TYPE MIXED BITUMINOUS ROADS	30.70
LOW-TYPE BITUMINOUS PENETRATION ROADS	0.00
HIGH-TYPE BITUMINOUS PENETRATION ROADS	6.54
BITUMINOUS CONCRETE	0.00
PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE ROADS	42.71
COMBINATION TYPE ROADS	0.00
OTHER	0.00
TOTAL MILES OF ROAD FOR KIMBALL COUNTY	142.60 <sup>a</sup>

OTHER ELEMENTS		STRUCTURES	
DESCRIPTION		DESCRIPTION	
SUBSTANDARD CURVES <sup>1</sup>	1	BRIDGES	32
BURIED PIPELINE	6	BOX CULVERTS	87
OVERHEAD CABLE	45	REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE	118
BURIED CABLE	0	CORRUGATED METAL PIPE	84
SILO ENTRANCE ROAD	17	METAL PIPE ARCHES	41
RAILROAD TRACK	3	R.C. ARCH CULVERTS	1
OVERHEAD SIGN	1	CATTLE GUARDS	1

Note: 1 Substandard curves are horizontal and vertical curves that would be unable to accommodate the required turning radius and configuration of the stage transporter vehicle.

a This figure includes mileage recorded on both sides (direction) of the Interstate system.

Station 190 had an average daily traffic (ADT) of 402. This is higher than the ADT generally found on the rural roads evaluated for this study. The effect of the November harvest is evident when comparing 1982 October and November traffic data. For example, the October ADT was 445 and the November ADT was 450. However, the peak day in October was only 656 compared to a peak day in November of 1,013. Records show that the peak day was Saturday, November 6. The volume on Friday, November 5, was 875 and the volume on Sunday, November 7, was 757. The peak day volume was 2.5 times the ADT.

A further examination was made of the highest hourly volumes at this station. Roadways are normally designed for the 30th to 50th highest hourly traffic volumes. The chart below shows the range of the high hourly volumes.

<u>Highest Hour of the Year (Ranking)</u>	<u>Hourly Traffic Volume (vehs)</u>	<u>Percentage of ADT</u>
1st	82	20.4%
10th	65	16.2%
20th	63	15.7%
30th	60	14.9%
40th	58	14.4%
50th	55	13.7%

An appraisal of these data indicates the following:

- o The highest daily volume associated with harvest may be considerably higher (possibly by a factor of 2.5) than the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes range from 15 to 20 percent of the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes are well within the capacity of a 2-lane rural road.
- o Special consideration should be given to the traffic associated with harvest operations. The agricultural vehicles are heavy, bulky, and slow-moving. The effect of these vehicles on traffic operations is greater than their absolute numbers would indicate.

Similar relationships between peak harvest traffic and ADT can be expected in the other counties within the Area of Site Influence.

Baseline (without the project) average daily traffic volumes on all project-related roads in Kimball County were estimated for the peak construction year and the operational year.

As discussed previously, the peak year of construction in rural areas will depend upon the scheduling of Launch Facility-related construction. Based on available information, it was assumed that 1989 would be the peak construction year for much of Kimball County. Therefore 1989 was used for the baseline analysis. In addition, 1992 was assumed to be 2 years after the project operational phase would begin. Thus, 1992 was also used in the baseline analysis.

The 1989 baseline average daily traffic volumes for project-related roads in Kimball County were estimated by applying average annual growth rates to the existing 1983 average daily traffic volumes. These growth rates were based upon a review of previous traffic trends and discussions with Wyoming and Nebraska state highway officials. Average annual growth rates by road classification are summarized below.

Rural Interstates	4.0 percent
Rural State Highways	2.5 percent
County Roads	1.0 percent

From a capacity standpoint, all 1989 estimated baseline average daily traffic volumes on project-related roads in the county would remain low and would be well within the capacity of the existing roadways. For example, 1989 baseline average daily traffic for links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 1,970 to 2,550, an increase ranging from 270 to 350 over existing 1983 volumes. The highest 1989 estimated baseline traffic volumes in the county would be 4,900 average daily traffic for portions of Interstate 80, a figure still well below this roadway's capacity volume. For county roads, the 1989 estimated baseline volumes are well within the capacity of existing roadways.

To estimate baseline average daily traffic volumes in the county for the projected operational year, the average annual growth rates were applied to 1983 traffic volumes through 1992. All 1992 estimated average daily traffic volumes for roadways within the county were again well within the capacity of those roadways to accommodate the increased volumes. For example, the 1992 baseline average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 would range from 2,120 to 2,750. The highest 1992 estimated baseline average daily traffic volumes in the county, which would occur on portions of Interstate 80, would be 5,440, still well below this roadway's capacity. Baseline 1992 volumes on county roads would again fall far below any of these volumes and are well within the capacity of existing roadways.

Under the projected baseline, it was assumed that Minuteman transporter/erector routes would continue to be used and their physical condition would remain essentially unchanged with the current level of maintenance.

#### 7.7.5.3 Project Impacts

Traffic volumes on project-related roads in Kimball County under the project were forecasted for 1989, the county's peak Launch Facility modification year. It is estimated that project-related traffic volumes during peak construction will be about 120 vehicles per day including about 20 heavy trucks. While this represents a substantial daily traffic increase on the rural road system, the resulting traffic volumes will be below the capacity of the roadways.

Under the project, the 1989 estimated average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 2,090 to 2,670, still well below the minimum capacity for a 2-lane road. If the project were implemented, the highest 1989 estimated traffic volumes in the county would be 5,020 average daily traffic which would occur on portions of Interstate 80. This volume would also be well below this roadway's capacity to accommodate



maximum traffic volumes. For county roads, 1989 traffic volumes under the project are considerably less than the capacity of the roadways. Based on available information, project operational requirements will not generate substantially more traffic than is currently experienced for the Minuteman program. Any roadway impacts based on additional Peacekeeper vehicle traffic will be minimal.

The project conditions require that existing transporter/erector routes be able to accommodate the specifications of the state transporter vehicle. Projected roadway deficiencies on transporter/erector routes were assessed through an evaluation of existing roadway conditions provided by the road inventory and applicable project design standards. Table 7.7.5-3 shows basic roadway and structural deficiencies identified during this evaluation. It should be noted that the potential road and structural deficiencies identified in this report are being verified through an evaluation process by the Military Traffic Management Command, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of the Air Force, and the state and local transportation departments.

Transporter/erector roadways must have adequate surface type and width. Preliminary results of the Military Traffic Management Command roadway evaluation study indicate that substantial road and bridge improvements will be necessary. Many miles of existing gravel roads will probably be paved, and existing paved roads may be reconstructed or resurfaced. The roadway evaluation study developed preliminary surfacing options, to accommodate the Peacekeeper project, shown in Table 7.7.5-4. In addition, the Nebraska Department of Roads has recommended that seven links be removed from the transporter/erector system and nine links added. These changes are shown in Figure 7.7.5-2.

Aggregate quantities determined from the Wyoming and Nebraska highway options are expected to be maximum estimates. Option A would require 1,700,000 cubic yards (cy) of aggregate and 710,000 cy of asphaltic concrete. Option B would require 1,380,000 cy of aggregate and 1,050,000 cy of asphaltic concrete. As recommended by the Federal Highway Administration, careful consideration should be given to using existing gravel in place.

Table 7.7.5-3

KIMBALL COUNTY  
COMPARISON OF EXISTING CONDITIONS  
WITH VARIOUS DESIGN STANDARDS

ALL ROADS

WIDTH	MILEAGE
-------	---------

18'	0.00
20'	0.03
24'	20.08
26'	43.29
28'	60.34
30'	62.28

TOTAL MILES OF ROAD IN THIS COUNTY	142.60
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GRAVEL ROADWAYS

TOTAL MILES OF E-2 <sup>1</sup> OR LESS	62.65
---	-------

GEOMETRIC CONDITIONS

SUBSTANDARD CURVES <sup>2</sup>	1
---------------------------------	---

CULVERTS

TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER	NO. WITH DEFICIENT COVER <sup>3</sup>
BOX CULVERTS	87	NO STANDARDS
REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE	118	5
CORRUGATED METAL PIPE	84	31
METAL PIPE ARCH	41	18
R.C. ARCH CULVERTS	1	0

Notes: 1 Gravel and stone roads, graded and drained.

2 Substandard curves are horizontal and vertical curves that would be unable to accomodate the required turning radius and configuration of the stage transporter vehicle.

3 Cover refers to the thickness of material over the top of a culvert structure that acts to distribute the applied traffic loading.

Table 7.7.5-4

TRANSPORTER/ERECTOR ROUTE  
SURFACING OPTIONS

<u>OPTION A</u>		<u>OPTION B</u>	
Combination Aggregate (agg.) and Asphalt (asph.)		All Asphalt	
<u>Miles</u>	<u>Roadway Section</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Roadway Section</u>
WYOMING			
75.29	40' wide; 6" agg. plus 3" asph.		Same as Option A
106.57	32' wide; 6" agg. plus 3" asph.		Same as Option A
17.90	32' wide; 3" asph.		Same as Option A
105.12	28' wide; 3" asph.		Same as Option A
145.11 <sup>a</sup>	28' wide; 9" agg.	181.39 <sup>a</sup>	20' wide, 3" asph.
36.28 <sup>a</sup>	24' wide; 9" agg.		on 28' wide, 9" agg. base
NEBRASKA			
84.6 <sup>a</sup>	22' wide; 7" asph.		Same as Option A
71.2 <sup>a</sup>	27' wide; 4" agg.	71.2 <sup>a</sup>	20' wide; 7" asph.
31.5	1" asph. overlay on two 8' shoulders		Same as Option A

Note: <sup>a</sup> Indicates a currently gravel-surfaced roadway.

Likely material locations have been identified on Figure 3.10.6-3 (which is enclosed as a fold-out at the end of this volume) as have extra road links which may be used as haul routes.

The transporter/erector route network will be improved under the project in the year 1987 during which time construction traffic will be at its heaviest. Additional countywide truck traffic related to the transport of roadway construction materials, is estimated at approximately 60 trucks per day during this year.

Construction activities to upgrade the transporter/erector routes (including certain bridges) will not result in degradation of the level of service, or safety, on most of the roads involved. However, delays could be moderate, especially when coupled with agricultural traffic at harvest time. Construction activities at the Launch Facilities are expected to cause minor delays.

Other project-related roads will be adequately maintained. Maintenance activities associated with these other project-related roads may result in short-term traffic delays.

Overall, however, there will be a substantial long-term beneficial effect on the physical condition and safety of the transporter/erector routes due to upgrading activities associated with the project.

#### 7.7.5.4 Mitigative Measures

- o Use of irretrievable resources, particularly aggregates for road construction, can be minimized through use of appropriate design methods. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has suggested that consideration be given to stabilizing existing gravel in place as a means to reduce aggregate usage on transporter erector road improvements. This mitigation will be effective in conserving irretrievable aggregate resources, and if selected, should be implemented in the preliminary design phase of the project. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation measure is the Nebraska Department of Roads.

8.0

**SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY  
NEBRASKA**

## **8.0 SOCIAL PROFILE AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA JURISDICTIONS**

The 1980 population of Scotts Bluff County is reported by the Census Bureau as 38,344. By 1992, without the project, this population is expected to increase to 43,310. Peak immigration to Scotts Bluff County is expected to occur in 1987, when 350 additional people are projected to reside in the county.

Principal project-related impacts will be in the areas of City of Gering general government and transportation. Area roads will experience some physical conditions impacts from project-related use.

### **8.1 Scotts Bluff County Government**

#### **8.1.1 General Government**

##### **8.1.1.1 Baseline Description**

###### **8.1.1.1.1 Organization and Administration**

Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska is presently administered by the County Board of Commissioners and several elected and appointed County officials. On March 1, 1977, the Board of Commissioners was expanded from three to the present five Commissioners. Commissioners are elected to staggered 4-year terms. Board meetings are held every Monday with special sessions held as needed. Table 8.1.1-1 lists Scotts Bluff County officials and departments. There are also several boards and committees active in Scotts Bluff County. Table 8.1.1-2 lists the active groups.

Some changes in organization have been made in the county. County welfare employees recently became State employees. In 1975, the Scotts Bluff Office of the Mentally Retarded was terminated as a direct County function. In 1977 the Handi-Bus/Handi-Man operations were begun and in 1975 the Zoning and Planning Office was created.

###### **8.1.1.1.2 Staffing**

Scotts Bluff County staff has grown steadily over the past 26 years, punctuated by large drops in total employment due to organizational changes. In addition, annual employment is marked by relatively low employment from September through December and relatively high employment for the balance of the year. Auto licensing and good weather activities (weed control, road maintenance) account for most seasonal fluctuations.

Total County employment rose from 120 persons in 1957 to over 300 persons in June 1975. Since that time, however, the transfer of the employees of the Office of the Mentally Retarded (54 persons) and, more recently, the transfer of some 45 welfare employees have served to reduce staffing to its present permanent staff level of about 180 persons. Staffing is presently considered adequate in the administrative offices; however, it is likely there will be continued pressure on these offices and the Highway Department for increased staffing. Table 8.1.1-3 gives employment by department.

Table 8.1.1-1

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY  
DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES - 1983

Commissioners-5 (1)	Public Defender
County Clerk (1)	Health Director
Registrar of Deeds(1)	County Judges -2
Clerk of District Court(1)	Welfare Director
Treasurer(1)	Weed Control
Sheriff(1)	Highway Superintendent
Assessor(1)	Airport Manager
County Attorney(1)	Veterans Officer
Surveyor(1)	Probation Officer
Superintendent of Schools(1)	

Notes: (1) Elected officials.

Source: Deputy County Clerk, List of Scotts Bluff  
County Officials (undated).

Table 8.1.1-2

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND  
COMMITTEES - 1983

Board of County Commissioners  
Panhandle Community Action Agency Board  
Scotts Bluff Drain Maintenance Committee  
Scotts Bluff County Extension Board  
Weed Control Authority Board  
Area Agency for Aging  
Gering Valley Flood Control Maintenance Committee  
Rail Transportation Safety District  
Panhandle Mental Health Center Board  
Region 1 Office of Mental Retardation Board  
Scotts Bluff County Health Board  
Visitors Committee  
Natural Resource Council  
Handi-Man, Handi-Bus Committee  
Airport Board

Source: Scotts Bluff County Clerk's Office.

Table 8.1.1-3

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY STAFFING  
BY DEPARTMENT - 1983

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number of Permanent Employees</u>
Commissioners	5
County Clerk	9
Treasurer	15
Assessor	8
County Superintendent	2
Registrar of Deeds	5
Clerk of District Court	5
Judges	2
County Attorney	8
Public Defender	4
Sheriff	29
Surveyor	1
Veterans Office	4
Extension	5
Zoning and Planning	2
Handi-Bus/Handi-Man	15
Child Support	4
County Kitchen	1
Mental Health Board	6
Election	1
Highway	46
Airport	3
TOTAL:	180

Source: Payroll records for Scotts Bluff County, May 1983; and  
Scotts Bluff County Highway Superintendent, July 8, 1983.



#### 8.1.1.1.3 Capital Facilities

The County of Scotts Bluff capital facilities inventory contains two major facilities devoted to County administration and maintenance, the new County Administration Building adjacent to the County Courthouse in Gering, and the County shop complex in Scottsbluff. The new County Administration Building, constructed in 1978, contains a gross area of 52,866 square feet, and houses most of the County administrative space. Space in this building is provided for many departments including the County Commissioners, County Clerk, Assessor, Registrar of Deeds, Treasurer, auto registration, vaults, civil defense, Handi-Man/Handi-Bus, open storage, Extension Agent, and Superintendents/of Schools, Health, and Elections. Administrative space is considered adequate for present and future county needs. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on county facilities.

The County shop complex in Scottsbluff is supplemented by other units. District No. 1, in Minatare, consists of a 7,500 square foot shop building within which a 300 square foot administrative office is located. District No. 2 (Scottsbluff) contains one 5,000 square foot shop building of which 400 square feet is used for office space, and one 1,080 square foot building used mainly for equipment storage. In addition, the main shop complex includes a joint-use building consisting of 3,500 square feet of which 60 percent is used by the Road and Bridge Department with the remainder divided among the Airport, Building and Zoning, and Flood Control departments. District No. 3 (Mitchell) has a 7,068 square foot shop building containing a 100 square foot office, and two steel storage buildings containing a combined total of 984 square feet. In Morrill, the County owns a 1,365 square foot shop building, while in Lyman the shop building is 576 square feet in area. County shop space is considered adequate for existing and future needs.

#### 8.1.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

Scotts Bluff County presently owns approximately 105 licensed vehicles, most of which are in good condition. In addition to licensed vehicles, the County also owns approximately 50 pieces of contractor's equipment for use by the Highway Department. With some exceptions, Highway Department equipment is considered in good condition and is generally adequate for the County's needs. Appendix E presents a partial inventory of major capital equipment. It should be noted, however, that the County has recently altered certain equipment replacement standards from 10 years and 15,000 hours to 12 years and 17,500 hours. The change was a result of lower availability of capital for capital equipment replacement; however, the standards are average for the area.

#### 8.1.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 8.1.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

Population in Scotts Bluff County is predicted to rise during 1983 - 1992 by only 3,750 persons or 9.5 percent above the estimated 1983 population. With population predicted to rise only slightly, no organizational or administrative changes are predicted for Scotts Bluff County under baseline conditions during 1983 to 1992.

#### 8.1.1.2.2 Staffing

With stable population and revenues predicted for the analysis period, staffing for Scotts Bluff County under the projected baseline is expected to remain at or near its present level between 1983 and 1992. Increased staff efficiency through computerization and other methods is expected to allow Scotts Bluff County to meet the projected small increases in demand without adding staff.

#### 8.1.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

Under baseline conditions, existing County administrative and shop space are both considered to be adequate for the analysis period. No major additions, deletions, or changes are anticipated.

#### 8.1.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

As stated in Section 8.1.1.1.4, capital equipment retirement standards were recently changed to allow certain pieces of equipment to be used for longer periods without replacement. With stable revenues for capital equipment replacement likely over the analysis period, it is not anticipated that any major changes in these standards will be necessary under the projected baseline. It is unlikely that the Scotts Bluff County fleet of vehicles and equipment will change substantially in number or general condition during 1983 to 1992.

### 8.1.1.3 Project Impacts

#### 8.1.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

No project construction work is scheduled to take place in Scotts Bluff County; therefore, population increases in the county due to the project are relatively small. Increases are predicted for 3 years of the 10-year analysis period, with no increase in population due to the project predicted for any other year.

Since the largest population increase is less than 1 percent of projected county population, no changes in organization or administration are likely in Scotts Bluff County as a result of the project during 1983 to 1992.

#### 8.1.1.3.2 Staffing

Since population increases in Scotts Bluff County due to the project are projected to be minimal, no staffing changes are likely. In addition, with the exception of slight additional (less than 1 percent) demands, no other impacts on Scotts Bluff County general government staffing are likely to occur as a result of the project during 1983 to 1992.

#### 8.1.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

The project is not projected to affect Scotts Bluff County capital facilities plans, inventory, costs, condition, or utilization to any significant extent.

#### 8.1.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

Minimal impacts on Scotts Bluff County capital equipment plans, costs, inventory, condition, or utilization are expected to result from the project during 1984 to 1992.

#### 8.1.1.4 Mitigative Measures

With only negligible impacts on Scotts Bluff County general government predicted, no mitigative measures are suggested.

### 8.1.2 Law Enforcement

#### 8.1.2.1 Baseline Description

Law enforcement in Scotts Bluff County is provided by the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Department. The Department is located in an annex to the Scotts Bluff County Courthouse constructed in 1967. Administrative, office, and operations space total 2,400 square feet. In addition, the jail kitchen occupies 650 square feet while the county jail contains 9,340 square feet on 2 floors. The jail has a capacity of up to 88 prisoners in 1 and 4-man cells, depending on how prisoners have to be segregated. Average daily jail population is 41. The Department plans to spend \$5,000 on remodeling and enlarging the jail's recreation area during the current budget year. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office.

Personnel of the Sheriff's Department consists of 17 sworn officers of whom 14 are on patrol and other outside duties (serving summonses, warrants, etc.). Civilian support staff includes one part-time and five full-time jailers, five dispatchers, three secretaries, and a process server. All civilian positions start at \$775 per month while deputies start at \$950 per month. The Department also has 20 reserve deputies and uses about one of these each day.

The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Department has seven marked patrol cars, one other marked car, two unmarked cars, a pickup, mobile crime lab, and a transportation van. Patrol cars are expected to last for 3 years resulting in the purchase of about 2 cars per year at a cost of approximately \$8,000 each.

#### 8.1.2.2 Projected Baseline

Under projected baseline conditions, the population of Scotts Bluff County will grow from 39,560 in 1983 to 43,310 in 1992. In order to maintain existing service levels, the Sheriff's Department will have to hire additional sworn personnel in 1986 and 1992, and an additional civilian employee in 1988. One additional marked car will be needed in 1992. Nominally, an additional 231 square feet of facility space would be required; however the existing space will be sufficient for Department needs through 1992.

#### 8.1.2.3 Project Impacts

Under the Project, the population of Scotts Bluff County will increase 0.8 percent over baseline in the peak year of 1988. This population increase will

not require any increases over baseline needs for staff, vehicles and equipment to maintain existing levels of service.

#### 8.1.2.4 Mitigative Measures

The level of impact described in the preceding section is minor, and will require no mitigative measures.

### 8.1.3 Justice System - County Court and County District Court

#### 8.1.3.1 Baseline Description

The respective jurisdictions of the Scotts Bluff County Court and Scotts Bluff County District Court follow the statutory mandates set out in Section 7.1.3.1. The county lies within the Seventeenth Judicial District and its courts are located in Gering, the county seat.

In recent years, Scotts Bluff County has managed its criminal caseload with increasing speed and efficiency. In the County District Court, the number of cases pending at month's end declined 82 percent from a three and one-half year high of 89 on April 30, 1980 to 16 on June 30, 1983. The Court is able to dispose of cases in a timely fashion, enabling the Court to dispose of a greater number of cases per month. In each of the calendar years 1980 and 1981, the Court disposed of 109 cases. In 1982, however, the Court disposed of 145 cases and continued the trend into the first half of 1983. In 1978, 30 percent of the Court's pending criminal cases at year's end were over 6 months old. For 1979 and 1980, the percentages were 46 percent and 40 percent, respectively. However, in 1981 and 1982, the figures dropped to 24 percent and 23 percent, respectively.

Yearly totals in the number of new cases filed have fluctuated without a clear pattern. For 1980 and 1981, the totals were 121 and 119, respectively. In 1982, the total jumped to 143. Nonetheless, for the first half of 1983, the total was 58, compared with 81 for the first half of 1982.

The appellate jurisdiction of the District Court is not often invoked. Over the past three and one-half years, only 47 new appeals were filed. Of that total, 64 percent were traffic cases from the County Court.

The staff of the District Court consists of the clerk, a deputy clerk, and one full-time clerical. Their annual salaries are \$17,960, \$16,000, and \$12,323. The costs of benefits for the staff, including health and accident insurance and a county retirement plan, have increased substantially from \$2,948 in fiscal year 1980-81, to \$6,072 in fiscal year 1982-83. Operating expenses, however, have remained fairly constant. In the past 3 years, there have been no budget allocations for either witness or juror fees.

There are two District Court judges in Scotts Bluff County. Their salaries are paid by the State, but the County pays for the judges' clerk and operating expenses. For 1982 and 1983, the clerk was paid \$19,707 in salary, and the County spent an additional \$3,979 for job-related benefits. Supplies and materials cost \$3,150 during the past year and remaining operating expenses totaled \$22,500, less than one-half the cost in 1980 and 1981. By far the largest component of operating expenses has been the cost of Court-appointed

1

defense counsel in criminal cases. However, these costs have dropped sharply, from \$36,516 in 1980 and 1981 to \$10,000 in 1982 and 1983.

Facilities for the District Court are located on the second floor of the courthouse building in Gering. There are 2 courtrooms, which occupy about 2,500 square feet. The judges' chambers occupy about 500 square feet, as does the clerk's office. Approximately 800 additional square feet are allocated to the court reporter and the jury room. Though the County budget for the District Court is limited, it appears that all staff and facilities are adequate.

In calendar year 1982, there were 9,118 new criminal cases filed in the Court. On a per capita basis, there was 1 new criminal case filed in Scotts Bluff County in 1982 for every 23 county residents.

Despite its relatively heavy criminal caseload, the Scotts Bluff County Court has shown a steady decrease in case volume over the past two and one-half years. In 1981, 10,243 new criminal cases were filed. That number slipped to 9,118 in 1982 and to only 4,128 for the first half of 1983. Dispositions have seen a corresponding decline. The net result has been a relatively stable number of cases pending at month's end during this period, although this figure for the months from September 1981 to November 1982, inclusive, was persistently higher than the period average.

Practically all criminal cases are disposed of without a trial. During the two and one-half year period ending June 1983, 95.5 percent of all dispositions ended with a plea of guilty or no-contest, a dismissal, or a transfer to juvenile proceedings. Of the 1,067 trials, 90 percent were tried by the Court, while only 106 were tried by a jury. The monthly average for court trials was 32, whereas there were about 3 or 4 jury trials per month in the Court. Further, the Court held a monthly average of 11.5 preliminary hearings on probable cause in felony cases. Finally, during this same period, an average of one County Court disposition per month was appealed to the District Court.

Scotts Bluff County Court is administered by the clerk and a part-time bailiff. The clerk, who is paid by the state, doubles as associate county judge. In 1983, her salary is \$1,539 per month.

Operating expenses have fluctuated within a fairly narrow range over the past few years. Witness and attorney fees together comprise 80 percent of these expenses, followed distantly by postal services and microfilming/photocopying. Supplies and material expenses have shown a modest increase, but capital outlays have almost tripled in the past 3 years.

The County Attorney and Public Defender are the remaining components of the Scotts Bluff County Court system. The County Attorney's caseload is divided among himself (about 200 cases per year) and three full-time deputies (each handling about 350 cases per year). The County Attorney presently earns \$25,875 per year and his chief deputy earns \$22,500. The other two deputies split \$42,186. There are four full-time secretaries, who divide a \$28,279 yearly budget. Finally, the office has the full-time services of a case investigator.

The Public Defender's caseload is divided among the Public Defender and his two deputies. The total salary for these attorneys is currently \$48,045. The office also employs a full-time secretary, earning \$8,071 per year and a part-time secretary, who earns \$266 per month. Employee benefits cost the County an additional \$8,706. Operating expenses total \$3,017, supplies and materials \$1,109, and capital outlays \$687.

Facilities for the County Court system are also located in the County Courthouse building in Gering. The three courtrooms occupy about 4,000 square feet on the first floor. Judges' chambers occupy another 800 square feet, and this area includes space used by the Associate County Judge for her clerical duties. The County Attorney's office occupies about 2,000 square feet and consists of 6 offices, 1 secretarial pool area, 1 filing room, and a law library. The Public Defender's office is located in the basement and occupies approximately 1,500 square feet.

The County Court system functions smoothly and efficiently. All facilities and staffing are adequate, with the possible exception of the County Attorney's office, which is just barely able to manage its caseload with the present staffing level. The County is currently exploring the feasibility of implementing a computer system.

#### 8.1.3.2 Projected Baseline

Baseline projections for the Scotts Bluff County justice system are based on a history of declining caseloads, in spite of increases in population. This trend in population is expected to continue, but there are no indications of any other demographic changes which would substantially affect the criminal justice system. A resurgence in the energy industry in the region would attract a significant amount of transitory labor. Such influxes tend to cause the crime rate to rise, particularly in nontraffic cases. Were this to develop, the only component of the County Court system which would experience a significant impact would be the office of the County Attorney. At this point, the office is operating at capacity. An increase of 5 percent or more in its caseload would necessitate the addition of another part-time deputy.

#### 8.1.3.3 Project Impacts

Considering the relatively low immigration projected for Scotts Bluff County as a result of the project, little impact on the justice system is anticipated. The only component of the system which may experience caseload expansion is the County Attorney's office. No increased staff will be required.

#### 8.1.3.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no mitigative measures required for the Scotts Bluff County justice system.

## **8.1.4     Transportation - Aviation**

### **8.1.4.1     Baseline Description**

Scotts Bluff County Airport is County owned and operated. It is located 3 miles northeast of Scotts Bluff at an elevation of 3,965 feet. It is classified as an air carrier airport. Scheduled air service is provided to Scotts Bluff County Airport by two airlines. Frontier Airlines operates three daily flights to Denver and three daily flights to North Platte, Nebraska, using DC-9s, 727s, and 737s. Rocky Mountain Airways operates two daily flights to Cheyenne, Wyoming, and one to Denver, Colorado using 50-passenger DeHavilland Dash 7's and 19-passenger DeHavilland Twin Otters. Approximately 20,000 passengers enplane at Scotts Bluff annually. Six thousand of the approximately 37,000 annual operations are air carrier.

Scotts Bluff has 65 based aircraft of which 57 are single engine. Three runways are all over 8,000 feet long and are rated to carry any aircraft within restricted operations.

### **8.1.4.2     Projected Baseline**

Scotts Bluff County Airport has a practical annual capacity of 130,000 operations and an hourly capacity of 58 operations. These capacity volumes, based on the Scotts Bluff County Airport Master Plan Technical Report (July 1978), are well above the 1990 annual operations of 60,000 projected by the area growth factor and the 81,300 operations projected for 1990 by the Master Plan. The Master Plan states that the passenger terminal area required will be 11,000 square feet compared to the existing 3,656 square feet.

### **8.1.4.3     Project Impacts**

Scotts Bluff County Airport may see some slight increase in commercial passenger traffic due to the distribution of the added population and activity throughout the area. However, existing commercial service is more than adequate to handle any increase in passenger traffic.

### **8.1.4.4     Mitigative Measures**

No mitigative measures are required.

## **8.1.5     Recreational Facilities**

There are no parks or recreational facilities administered by Scotts Bluff County. Regional facilities are discussed in Section 10.1.

## **8.2      City of Scottsbluff**

### **8.2.1    General Government**

#### **8.2.1.1   Baseline Description**

##### **8.2.1.1.1   Organization and Administration**

The City of Scottsbluff has a council-manager form of government. The present Council comprises 5 members elected at large to 4-year terms. The Mayor is elected to a 2-year term by the Council; the present Mayor has approximately 12 years of experience at that position. The Mayor's compensation is \$1,800 per year while the other 4 Council members receive \$1,200 per year. The average length of experience of Council members is about 8 years each.

Council meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month and, including special meetings, average about 30 meetings per year.

In addition to the Council, the City is organized into the City Manager's office and four major groups of departments including Administration, Human Resources, Public Works, and Public Safety (Figure 8.2.1-1).

Some reorganization has taken place within City government since 1979 including the transfer of civil defense to joint city/county jurisdiction, decentralization of the Central Garage, and the creation of division heads who report directly to the City Manager and to whom certain department heads report. No additional changes in organization are foreseen at this time.

##### **8.2.1.1.2   Staffing**

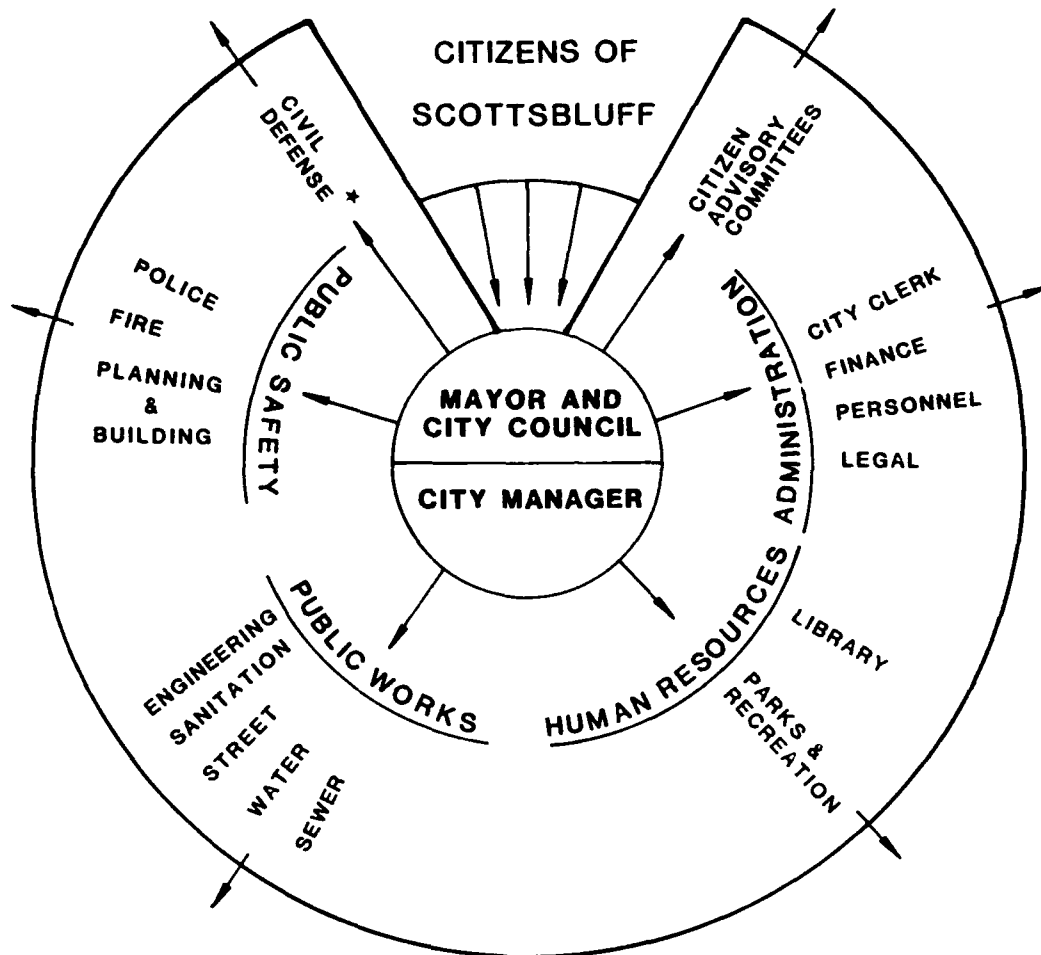
As evidenced by community surveys and other information, the City of Scottsbluff has undergone an austerity program over the past few years which has resulted in an approximate 30-percent reduction in staffing. The trend in the near future is seen as one of stable employment barring major increases in population. Table 8.2.1-1 illustrates present and recent staffing.

##### **8.2.1.1.3   Capital Facilities**

City of Scottsbluff general government administrative facilities are located for the most part in two buildings, City Hall and the Kenneth George Roberts Annex. City Hall contains almost 10,400 square feet of area divided between City administration and the Police Department. The annex consists of slightly over 2,200 square feet and houses the City Engineer, Department of Public Works, and the Planning, Building, and Development Department (see Appendix D).

At present, the City Hall administrative space is considered adequate, while the annex is considered inadequate to meet existing space needs. With recent decentralization of City maintenance, this function is now the responsibility of each department. The only large shop space presently in the City system is the Street Department shop. Shop space in the city is presently considered adequate to meet City needs for now and the foreseeable future.





\* -JOINT CITY/COUNTY

SOURCE:

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA  
ANNUAL BUDGET REPORT FOR  
1982 TO 1983, JUNE 1, 1983.

**FIGURE 8.2.1-1 ORGANIZATION CHART  
CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA**

Table 8.2.1-1

CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF STAFFING  
BY DEPARTMENT - 1980-1983

<u>Department</u>	<u>Number of Employees (2)</u>		
	<u>1980-81</u>	<u>1981-82</u>	<u>1982-83</u>
Administration	14.45	13.95	12.95
Planning, Building, and Development	3.67	3.67	3.67
Engineering	3.67	3.08	3.08
Fire	20.5	19.5	18.5
Police (1)	40	40	39
Personnel	1.25	1.25	1.25
Parks Maintenance	9.75	9.75	9.75
Recreation Program	12.25	12	10
Zoo	4.25	4.25	4.25
Library	10.2	9.2	9.2
Street	12.5	12.5	12.65
Cemetery	1.75	1.75	1.75
Parking	2.5	2.5	2.5
Sanitation	16.1	10.1	10.1
Landfill	2.2	3.34	3.44
Sewer	6.3	6.3	7.3
Water	9.9	10.4	9.9
Central Garage	2.5	3.5	0.35
Community Development	3.75	3	0
TOTAL:	177.49	170.04	159.64

Notes: (1) Includes five part-time crossing guards.  
 (2) Expressed in full-time equivalents (FTE).

Source: City of Scottsbluff Annual Budget 1982-1983, June 1, 1983.

#### 8.2.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

The City of Scottsbluff currently has nearly 200 vehicles or pieces of equipment in its inventory. Appendix E presents an inventory of selected major capital equipment. Generally, equipment condition is good, and the fleet is considered adequate for the workload. With the decentralization of vehicle and equipment maintenance, each department is responsible for maintaining its own inventory. So far, this system is estimated to have resulted in substantial savings to the City.

Although certain capital expenditures were made in the FY 1982-83 budget to replace older equipment, it should be noted that capital equipment needs for the City of Scottsbluff are high, particularly for large pieces such as street sweepers and road graders.

#### 8.2.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 8.2.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

Population in the city of Scottsbluff under baseline conditions is projected to increase only marginally during 1983 to 1992.

Since the City of Scottsbluff has recently made some organizational changes and does not foresee any additional changes over the analysis period, no organizational or administrative changes from the current conditions are likely during 1983 to 1992.

##### 8.2.1.2.2 Staffing

As shown in Section 8.2.1.1.2, staffing for the City of Scottsbluff has been reduced since 1980 by 10 percent, mainly in response to community goals to reduce spending. Stable staffing over the period 1983 to 1992 is anticipated, especially with the stable population levels projected.

##### 8.2.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

The only major change in municipal capital facilities presently planned for and likely to occur in Scottsbluff under projected baseline during 1983 to 1992 is the construction of the proposed 2,080 square foot building addition to the Planning, Building, and Development Department; Engineer Department; and Fire Department Headquarters. No other major municipal capital facility changes are likely to occur under the projected baseline during 1983 to 1992. Some minor changes such as additional water department space are likely.

##### 8.2.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

With low population increases projected, no major changes in capital equipment fleet or condition are predicted for the analysis period of 1983 to 1992.

### 8.2.1.3 Project Impacts

#### 8.2.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

The city of Scottsbluff is expected to receive project-related population increases in 1986 through 1989.

With no direct impacts from the project likely to occur and project-related increases predicted to be low, no impacts on or changes in organization or administration of City government are expected between 1983 and 1992.

#### 8.2.1.3.2 Staffing

The projected stable staffing will be adequate to handle the slight project-related population increases. This is especially likely since the project increases are projected to be small and of short duration.

#### 8.2.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

Impacts due to the project on the municipal capital facilities of Scottsbluff are expected to be so small and of such short duration as to be negligible.

#### 8.2.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

Only very small and short duration impacts on capital equipment usage due to the project are likely. There will be no impact on fleet size or condition due to the project.

### 8.2.1.4 Mitigative Measures

Since impacts due to the project on City of Scottsbluff general government are projected to be minimal, no mitigative measures are in order.

## 8.2.2 Sewage Treatment

### 8.2.2.1 Baseline Description

Scottsbluff is a community of 14,440 (1983) located on the North Platte River. The community has a sanitary sewer system with a capacity that the City's Sewer and Water Superintendent has rated as adequate. Ninety percent of the collection system is separate, and 10 percent is combined, meaning the combined system carries both sanitary sewage and storm runoff.

The City operates a treatment plant consisting of aerated lagoons and micro-screens. The design capacity of the plant is 3.14 million gallons per day, and it currently receives an average daily flow of 2.5 mgd. Discharge is into the North Platte River. The average-day remaining capacity of 0.64 mgd (3.14 mgd-2.5 mgd) is sufficient to serve an additional 3,624 people (640,000/176.6 gallons per capita per day).

The treatment plant currently receives a peak-daily flow of 3.4 mgd, which is greater than its design capacity (3.14 mgd), but such a condition is typical. Plants are normally designed to handle a hydraulic load of two to

three times the average flow, which is for most efficient biochemical performance. Sludge is removed from the lagoons periodically.

The City's wastewater system operates with an annual budget of \$566,545 and a staff that averages 7.3 full-time employees. Services are provided to residential customers at a rate of \$2.80 per household per month. This is a minimum reported rate. Presumably, large commercial or industrial water users are charged more. The tap-in fee for a new home is a one-time charge of \$20.

#### 8.2.2.2 Projected Baseline

Projected future trends without the project show only a 700-person change in population over the entire baseline period (1983-1992). Based on current excess capacity, no additions to sewage collection or waste treatment systems will be necessary. The waste treatment plant was upgraded in June 1983, and no further expansions are contemplated. Excess treatment capacity, on an average-day basis, currently exists for an additional 3,624 people.

#### 8.2.2.3 Project Impacts

Project-induced immigration is projected to occur at Scottsbluff in 1986 when 67 people, including workers, their families, and/or project-induced indirect service people and transients will move into Scottsbluff. As the project work increases near Scottsbluff, project-related immigrants are projected to increase to 234 in 1988 and then to drop to 167 in 1989. By 1990, there will be no remaining project-related residents in Scottsbluff.

The peak of 234 people will affect the waste collection and treatment systems by an increase in wastewater flow of 41,324 gallons per day ( $234 \times 176.6$  gpcd). This will represent a small change in the city-wide average wastewater flow from 2.5 mgd to 2.54 mgd. Computations show that a 24-inch sewer line would carry 2.5 mgd at a depth of roughly 64 percent full. The same pipe would carry the new waste flow of 2.54 mgd at a relative depth of 65 percent full. The change represents an increase in depth of less than one-quarter inch. Accordingly, there would be no demonstrable impact on the collection system or the waste treatment plant. Scottsbluff has an excess treatment capacity for 3,624 people, and only 234 people in the maximum year are being added.

#### 8.2.2.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no mitigative measures for sewage treatment in Scottsbluff because there will be no impacts.

### 8.2.3 Water Treatment and Distribution

#### 8.2.3.1 Baseline Description

Scottsbluff pumps all its potable water from wells. The distribution system consists of 4 to 24-inch pipelines with water pressures ranging from 40 to 85 pounds per square inch.

A recent average-day water demand when this city had 14,156 people was 4.0 mgd, or 282.6 gpcd. Peak-day demand was 3 times the average or 12.0 mgd,

a nominal multiple of the daily average demand. Peak-daily demand including firefighting demand is 14.0 mgd. The 2 mgd of firefighting demand represents less than the rate that could be supplied from available elevated storage over a day (2.65 million gallons). An additional 0.2 MG of storage is provided in an elevated tank at the nearby county airport.

The City's wells can supply water at 18.2 mgd (plus another 1.5 mgd capacity for the airport area). Consequently, for peak summer-day demands, the City could supply an additional 6.2 mgd (18.2 mgd-12.0 mgd). At the recent peak usage rate of 12.0 mgd per 14,156 persons, this is equivalent to excess peak-day capacity for an additional 7,314 persons (6.2 mgd/848 gpcd).

The City operates its water supply system with the equivalent of 9.9 full-time employees. Its annual water supply budget is \$659,045. Users are charged for water at the rate of \$0.52 per 1,000 gallons. New homes are assessed a one-time connection fee of \$20.

#### 8.2.3.2 Projected Baseline

Projections reveal relatively little change (700 people) for Scottsbluff's population during the period 1983 through 1992. Thus, no further additions to water treatment and distribution facilities are necessary. The water system is adequate for 7,314 more people on a peak day without a fire.

#### 8.2.3.3 Project Impacts

Projections reveal that 234 immigrants would live in Scottsbluff in 1988, the peak year in which project-induced populations are expected to arrive there. The maximum influx of 234 people would increase average-day water demands from the baseline demand of 4.20 mgd to 4.27 mgd (4.2 mgd + 234 people x 282.6 gpcd). Peak-day demands could be increased by 198,400 gallons, or from the baseline 12.6 mgd to 12.8 mgd. These added flows could be accommodated with little or no adjustments to today's pumping rates. Resulting changes in distribution system pressure should not be measurable.

Another way to view these very small impacts on the water system is that they could be easily made with the added daily revenue of \$34.39 (66,128 gal/day x \$ 0.52 per 1,000 gal). For example the added power to pump the extra 66,128 gallons per day from a well with a 60-foot lift would be roughly two-thirds of a kilowatt per day. The cost of that energy would be approximately \$0.90 per day (assuming an energy cost of \$0.06 per kilowatt-hour).

The impact of serving potable water to an additional 67 to 234 people in Scottsbluff over a 3-year period would be almost unmeasureable. No further facilities would be required.

#### 8.2.3.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no mitigative measures proposed for water treatment in Scottsbluff because there will be no impacts.

## 8.2.4 Solid Waste Disposal

### 8.2.4.1 Baseline Description

The Scottsbluff Department of Sanitation is responsible for the collection, transport, disposal, and overall administration of solid waste operations within Scottsbluff. The Department currently owns, operates, and maintains two 18-cubic yard (cy), rear-loading packer vehicles used to serve the 698 commercial accounts, plus three 20-cy, side-loading packer vehicles to serve the 5,837 residential accounts (1983 population is 14,440). An additional 562 individuals and businesses haul wastes directly to the City-owned sanitary landfill. Collection frequency is twice per week throughout the city with two-man crews serving the commercial accounts and one-man crews used for the residential districts.

An average of 12 truckloads of solid waste are delivered daily to the City's landfill. At 5 pounds per person per day, the annual load is 13,177 tons per year. The 12 truckloads per day, 5 days per week, represent about  $60 \times 20$  cy = 1,200 cy per week or 62,400 cy per year of uncompacted waste. Compacted to one-third that volume at the landfill, the annual load requires 20,800 cy or 12.9 acre-feet of fill space. In 6-foot deep cells, the area filled each year would be about 2.2 acres.

The landfill, located approximately 5 miles to the east of the city, extends over 160 acres with some 35 acres actively being filled. Approximately 2 acres per year are required to meet disposal needs. The landfill is designed and licensed to accept all forms of household and commercial wastes, construction and demolition debris, discarded appliances, stripped automobiles, tires, and vegetative wastes (such as tree limbs). No chemical wastes, toxic and hazardous wastes, or industrial wastes are accepted for disposal. Cover material is readily available at the site. The landfill is ringed by a security fence with a central gate. A litter fence is also used to minimize windblown debris.

The Scottsbluff Department of Sanitation employs a total of 13 people and has an annual collection budget of \$457,340 (1983). Fees for residential collection are \$4.50 per month and \$10.10 per month for commercial accounts.

### 8.2.4.2 Projected Baseline

By 1992, when the Scottsbluff population has grown to 15,140 people, the annual solid waste load will have grown to 13,816 tons per year, which at the same compaction rate as today's will be equivalent to 21,810 cubic yards or 13.5 acre-feet of fill space used per year. About 2.25 acres will be filled each year, compared with 2.15 acres in 1983. The loads will have increased by only 4.8 percent. No increases in equipment or operation can be anticipated.

### 8.2.4.3 Project Impacts

In the peak year of the project, 211 permanent residents and 23 transients will have moved to Scottsbluff. They will add 1,124 pounds per day ( $211 \times 5 + 23 \times 3$ ) to the city's solid waste loads, equivalent to 205.1 tons per year or 323.8 cy of compacted-waste fill space. By comparison, with the baseline population in 1988, this increase in load represents an increment of

1.5 percent. No changes in collection equipment or landfill operation can be foreseen. Over the 4 years, the added solid waste load will represent an additional 574 tons to be collected and 906 cy of compacted waste to be buried. The burial area required for the 4 years will be 0.094 acres, compared with the baseline rate of 2.2 acres per year. Accordingly, the City should be unable to detect any change in its operation.

#### 8.2.4.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no mitigative measures proposed for solid waste for Scottsbluff, because there will be negligible impacts.

### 8.2.5 Stormwater

#### 8.2.5.1 Baseline Description

Scottsbluff has a storm sewer system throughout much of the city. Seven storm outfalls, ranging in size from 18 to 60 inches, drain to the North Platte River. Most were designed for the 2-year event, but local study is underway to determine the adequacy of the system and to plan future expansions.

As shown in Table 3.2.5-2, the developed area of Scottsbluff experiences a peak runoff rate in a 2-year storm of approximately 790 cubic feet per second. Fifteen equivalent 60-inch storm sewers would be necessary to drain that much water from the entire city. Five would be necessary to drain 40 percent of the city, which has been assumed here to be the more built-up, commercial area of town where storm sewers are usually installed. Scottsbluff has 7 outfalls, of which 3 are 60-inch sewers. Other outfalls include an 18-inch, a 20-inch, a 42-inch, and a 48-inch sewer.

While 0.5 inch per hour was projected from regional data as the 2-hour rainfall intensity for a 2-year storm, rainfall data from nearby Torrington, Wyoming, suggest that a 2-hour, 2-year storm would amass 1.14 inches of rain, which indicates an average intensity of 0.57 inch per hour. The 100-year rainfall over a 24-hour period in Torrington is 4.3 inches. Hence, larger events than the design rainfall used here are possible.

#### 8.2.5.2 Projected Baseline

By 1992 the population of Scottsbluff is projected to increase by 700 persons. If these residents all required new homes to be built, 64 new acres of single-family homes ( $700/2.75 \times 4$  homes/acre) would be required. This would increase the developed area from 3,160 to 3,224 acres and would not increase the C-value at all (0.5 being the value used for the city now and being the same value for urban-residential land on mild slopes). Therefore, peak runoff should increase from 790 cfs today to 806 cfs ( $0.5 \times 0.5 \times 3,224$ ). No changes in the City's major facilities would be required to accommodate this slightly larger flow. This is not to say that new areas of development such as subdivisions should not have storm sewers installed. There is no indication that all 64 acres would be required, since available vacant homes could be used, and any new housing implied here is not likely to be in a single new development area.



#### 8.2.5.3 Project Impacts

The peak immigration year projected for the project is 1988, when 211 permanent residents will move to Scottsbluff. The net housing demand, however, has been projected to be nil, specifically only 2 mobile home units. Hence no changes in city wide storm drainage facilities would be necessary to accommodate this miniscule level of land use change.

#### 8.2.5.4 Mitigative Measures

Because city wide storm drainage facilities will not be materially impacted by the project, there are no mitigative measures proposed for Scottsbluff.

#### 8.2.6 Law Enforcement

##### 8.2.6.1 Baseline Description

The Scottsbluff Police Department has 28 sworn personnel plus an additional part-time officer in the summer months. Of that number, 17 are on patrol duty, 7 are in command positions, 2 are detectives, 1 is the chief, and another is the assistant chief. Civilian support personnel include four dispatchers and two records clerks. Starting salaries for patrolmen are \$1,200 per month while the civilian positions each start at \$1,000 per month.

The Police Department is located in the Scottsbluff Municipal Building, where it occupies 6,850 square feet. The Department has no jail, as all prisoners are taken to the county jail in Gering. During 1984, the Department plans to construct an enclosure around its communications area, which is presently located in a wide hallway. This improvement is expected to cost approximately \$25,000. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on the Scottsbluff Police Department.

The Department operates six marked patrol cars and two unmarked cars. The cars last about 1.5 years or 60,000 miles, resulting in the purchase of 4 cars per year at about \$10,000 each.

##### 8.2.6.2 Projected Baseline

The population of Scottsbluff is projected to increase very slightly, from 14,440 in 1983 to 15,140 in 1992. This essentially stable population will require one additional sworn officer (in 1986) but no other additional staff, vehicles, or facilities for the Scottsbluff Police Department through 1992.

##### 8.2.6.3 Project Impacts

With the project, the population of Scottsbluff is projected to have a peak year increase of 1.6% or 223 persons in 1987. This figure is insufficient to require any additional staff, vehicles or facilities over baseline needs to maintain existing levels of service.

#### 8.2.6.4 Mitigative Measures

The level of impact from the project described in the preceding section is so low as to require no mitigative measures.

#### 8.2.7 Fire Protection

##### 8.2.7.1 Baseline Description

The Scottsbluff Fire Department has a paid staff of 18, including 9 firefighters, 6 officers, a chief, a fire marshal, and a part-time secretary. The fire marshal is involved on a full-time basis in fire prevention and fire inspection work. Starting salary for firefighters is \$1,038 per month.

In addition to this professional staff, volunteers also respond to each fire call. The same volunteers constitute the manpower of the Scottsbluff Rural Fire District (Section 8.13).

The Fire Department works primarily out of its main fire station. Located in back of the Municipal Building, it was constructed in 1957 and has a 2,160 square foot garage area and a 2,080 square foot living area. This station houses three pumpers and a snorkel truck. The Fire Department headquarters building, located across the street from the main fire station has 1,120 square feet with offices for the chief, secretary, and fire marshal. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on these facilities. The Department's third structure is a 1982 garage for reserve firefighting vehicles. Four older fire trucks are stored in the building's 2,800 square feet. The City of Scottsbluff has a fire insurance rating of six.

##### 8.2.7.2 Projected Baseline

Under baseline conditions, the population of Scottsbluff is projected to increase very slightly from 14,440 in 1983 to 15,140 in 1992. This essentially stable population will require one additional firefighter in 1988 but no other changes in firefighting vehicles or facilities for the Scottsbluff Fire Department through 1992.

##### 8.2.7.3 Project Impacts

With the project, the population of Scottsbluff is projected to experience a peak-year increase of 1.6 percent in 1988. This figure is insufficient to require any additions to the staff, equipment, or facilities of the Department.

##### 8.2.7.4 Mitigative Measures

The impact from the project described in the preceding section is minor, and will require no mitigative measures.

## **8.2.8 Local Recreational Facilities**

### **8.2.8.1 Baseline Description**

#### **8.2.8.1.1 Organization, Administration, and Planning**

The City of Scottsbluff operates and maintains a large number of parks and recreational facilities within its incorporated limits. The City's Parks and Recreation Department is headed by a Director who is responsible for the overall operation of the Department, which includes parks, recreation, zoo, and the cemetery. This includes contact with the City for budgetary planning and administrative purposes. The Director is responsible to the City Manager and has operations and programs of the Department overseen by a five-member advisory group known as the Park and Cemetery Board.

The Parks and Recreation Department currently employs 41 workers, 11 of whom are full time. The remaining employees are part time or seasonal. No disaggregation was available allocating staff members to park, recreational facility, or zoo duties.

Parks and recreation services are not considered by the City in its formal planning efforts. Scottsbluff has no master plan for parks and recreation or subdivision regulations addressing parks acquisition.

#### **8.2.8.1.2 Recreation Programs**

The City of Scottsbluff offers a number of recreation programs to its residents, including swimming, diving, water exercise, physical fitness, canoeing, tennis, softball, playground activities, and archery. Program diversity has decreased over the previous 3 years due to budgetary constraints. The City has enough different types of recreational facilities available, however, to make an increase in program diversity possible given public demand and funding.

It appears that summer swimming lessons and the senior citizens exercise programs are the most popular activities, according to local officials, although program participation statistics were not available to corroborate this.

#### **8.2.8.1.3 Recreation Facilities**

A variety of recreation facilities exist within the city, either in conjunction with parks, or as individual facilities. These facilities are all under the control of the Parks and Recreation Department. Table 8.2.8-1 presents an inventory of City parks and recreation facilities.

Information concerning annual operation and maintenance costs and the staffing of individual parks and recreation facilities is not available. The Parks and Recreation Department feels its most pressing need is increasing the number of lighted ballfields. These will be added to the parks and recreation system as funds become available.

Table 8.2.8-1  
INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS, RECREATION AND SPECIAL USE FACILITIES  
CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF, NEBRASKA

Parks	Acres in Size	Ballfields (Lighted <sup>a</sup> )	Practice Fields	Tennis Courts	Picnic Area	Playground	Swim-Indoor	Swim-Outdoor	Meeting Room	Weight Room	Racquetball	Golf Holes	Ice Skating-Out	Campground	Gymnastics Area	Jogging Track <sup>9</sup>
Riverside (200)	N/A					1								1		
Pioneer	3.56				1	1			1							
Overland	1.69				1	1										
Frank	12.25	4			1	1							1			
Neighbor	0.45					1										
Lovell	1.02				1	1										
Swimming Pool	5.03			N/A		1		1								
Lacy	20.00	2 <sup>a</sup>			1	1										
Jaycee	3.44					1										
McCaffree	1.20					1										
Central (Library)	N/A															
Band	0.66															
Broadway & Ave. A	1.50															
Don	0.51															
Guadalupe	0.62															
Veteran's	8.00	1 <sup>a</sup>		N/A	1	1										
Northwood	10.00	1 <sup>a</sup>			1	1										
Terry Carpenter	8.00			6	1	1										
SUBTOTAL	N/A <sup>b</sup>	8		10 <sup>a</sup>	9	14		1	1				1	1		

(Parts of facility are still under development.)

Table 8.2.8-1 Continued  
INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS, RECREATION AND SPECIAL USE FACILITIES  
SCOTTS BLUFF, NEBRASKA

<u>Recreation Facilities</u>											
Cleveland Stadium	10.00	2 <sup>a</sup>									
Splash Arena <sup>c</sup>	N/A	1 <sup>a</sup>									
Legion Baseball	1.60										
Cleveland Field Addition	10.00	2 <sup>a</sup>									
	N/A <sup>c</sup>	5									
Subtotal											
Scottsbluff YMCA	N/A										
Schools	N/A										
TOTALS:	291.2 <sup>d</sup>	13	3	11	9	14	2	2	9	1	1

Notes: N/A Indicates facility data not available.

a Indicates ballfields that are lighted.

b A subtotal figure is not given because the individual facility acreages for Riverside Park and Central Park are not available.

c A subtotal figure is not given because the individual facility acreage for the Splash Arena is not available.

d The figure does not include Fairview Cemetery, but does include an aggregated acreage number for Riverside Park, Central Park, and the Splash Arena.

e Information on how the four remaining courts were distributed between Swimming Pool Park and Veteran's Park was not available.

f The figure does not include weight rooms that the school district may own and operate.

g The figure does not include jogging tracks that the school district may own and operate.

Source: City of Scottsbluff Park and Recreation Director; Scottsbluff Public Schools District.

#### 8.2.8.1.4 Parks

Scottsbluff has approximately 271.2 acres of developed parkland. This figure includes the Riverside Park Zoo area, the Central Park Library complex, and the Splash Arena indoor and outdoor pool area; it excludes Fairview Cemetery. The City also owns 20.0 acres of undeveloped parkland, but does not currently have plans for development. The Parks and Recreation Department feels that vandalism is the most pressing problem within the parks system.

#### 8.2.8.1.5 Other Recreational Opportunities

Within the community there are a number of other recreation programs and facilities provided by other public agencies or private enterprise. These include the YMCA, the Scottsbluff Public Schools District, the Senior Citizens Center, the West Nebraska Arts Center, and the public library.

The Scottsbluff YMCA is a membership organization providing a number of recreation facilities, services, and programs for the residents of Scottsbluff-Gering and vicinity on a member and nonmember fee basis. The Y's recreation office accepts registrations on a first-come, first-served basis. With the use of not only their own facilities, but also city parks, the West Nebraska Arts Center, and school district athletic facilities, the Y is able to offer archery, tumbling, canoe lessons, fine arts classes, playground activities, soccer, swimming lessons, diving, tennis, racquetball, weight training, wrestling, and jogging. No program participation statistics and trends are available.

The Scottsbluff public schools offer a limited number of athletic facilities for public use at specified times. These facilities include gymnasiums, a tennis court, and an archery area. No organized recreational programs are currently available through the School District. The public schools tend to discourage the use of school facilities by the public because of supervision problems.

Commercial recreation facilities in the Scottsbluff-Gering area include 3 bowling alleys, 4 movie theaters, an 18-hole private golf course, one 18-hole golf course open to the public, one 9-hole public golf course at Gering, a Nautilus Club, and one roller skating rink.

#### 8.2.8.1.6 Budget

The Parks and Recreation Department budget includes expenditures for parks, recreation, and the zoo. Total Department expenditures have decreased by approximately 8 percent in real dollars (adjusted for inflation) from FY 1981-82 to FY 1982-83. Actual dollar expenditures dipped \$6,000, from \$426,000 to \$420,000. Decreases are due to belt tightening by the City to ameliorate its financial position. It is not known how the reductions have affected individual facilities, because the parks section of the budget does not break out expenditures by individual facility. Table 8.2.8-2 shows budgetary expenditures for FY 1981-82 and estimated expenditures for FY 1982-83.

The main sources of revenue for the Parks and Recreation Department are the City's general fund, zoo entries, various activity and user fees, and pool admission charges. To supplement the Department's budget, grants have been

received over the last 3 years. The Soil Conservation Service and Community Development Block Grants have provided a total of \$13,000 in FY 1980-81, \$5,700 in FY 1981-82, and \$13,700 in FY 1982-83.

Table 8.2.8-2

SCOTTSBLUFF PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET

	<u>FY 1981-82</u>	<u>FY 1982-83</u>
Parks		
Capital Expenditures	15,000	9,000
Operations & Maintenance	<u>194,000</u>	<u>206,000</u>
Total	209,000	215,000
Recreation		
Capital Expenditures	6,500	0
Operations & Maintenance	<u>133,500</u>	<u>132,000</u>
Total	140,000	132,000
Zoo		
Capital Expenditures	0	0
Operations & Maintenance	<u>77,000</u>	<u>73,000</u>
Total	77,000	73,000
Total Expenditures		
Capital Expenditures	21,500	9,000
Operations & Maintenance	<u>404,500</u>	<u>411,000</u>
Total	426,000	420,000

Source: Director, Scottsbluff Parks and Recreation Department.

8.2.8.2 Projected Baseline

In the baseline scenario, an additional 700 persons are projected to reside in Scottsbluff by 1992, for a total of 15,140. This small amount of additional population is expected to create no significant service difficulties for the Scottsbluff Parks and Recreation Department.

8.2.8.3 Project Impacts

The 1983 population estimate for Scottsbluff was 14,440. The cumulative or total population of Scottsbluff, including project-related persons, is expected to be 14,777 people in 1986, increasing to 15,095 people in 1988 (peak year). The project's contribution to cumulative population levels is small - 235 people during peak year, dropping to 168 people in 1989. This small population increase (1.6% of the total population), extending for a short period of time, will not create a demand for parkland, facilities, or staffing beyond those already provided by the community.

#### 8.2.8.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures are required.

#### 8.2.9 Library Facilities

##### 8.2.9.1 Baseline Description

Library facilities located in Scottsbluff include Scottsbluff Public Library, Nebraska Western College Library, and several special libraries. The Scottsbluff Public Library is a member of the Panhandle Library Network system described in Section 7.2.4.1.2.

##### 8.2.9.1.1 Scottsbluff Public Library

A summary of the level of services provided by the Scottsbluff Public Library, based on Nebraska Library Commission (NLC) and Wyoming State Library (WSL) standards, is provided in Table 8.2.9-1. Detailed statistics on library facilities and services provided by the Scottsbluff Public Library are presented in Table 8.2.9-2.

TABLE 8.2.9-1

SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES:  
ACTUAL VERSUS RECOMMENDED

	<u>Actual Service Level</u>	<u>Recommended NLC/WSL<sup>1</sup> Standard</u>
Space per Capita	0.5 sq ft	1 sq ft
Books per Capita	4.2	3.5
Staff per Population	1:1,436	1:2,000
Budget per Capita	\$15.28	\$16.09

Note: <sup>1</sup> Wyoming State Library standards were used for staff and budget as no Nebraska Library Commission quantitative standards exist for these sources.

Sources: "Guidelines for Public Library Service in Nebraska," Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, 1980, and Wyoming public library standards. Based on 1982 population of 14,360.

Library space is inadequate for the population served. The existing facility was built in 1966 and is in good condition, but does not contain enough space to hold the expanding collection. The Scottsbluff Public Library is a regional library resource for the northern Panhandle region. As the largest public library in the Panhandle Library Network system, it is heavily depended on for these services by the smaller rural community libraries in Scotts Bluff County. The library has exceeded its initial capacity for books. Without needed expansion of space, not forthcoming in the near future due to lack of



Table 8.2.9-2

LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES  
SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FY 1981-1982

Service Population:	City of Scottsbluff:	14,360
Total Floor Space:		7,454 sq ft
Floor Space/Capita:		0.5 sq ft
Shelf Space:		5,632 linear ft
Seats:		51
Multipurpose Rooms:		1
Hours/Week:		58
Books	Adults:	43,716
	Children:	16,831
	Total:	60,547
Books/Capita:		4.2
Nonbook Materials:		16,343
Total Library Materials:		76,890
Materials/Capita:		5.4
Books/Materials Budget:		\$44,024
Equipment:	4 16-mm projectors; 10 tape players; 6 microfilm readers; 2 microfilm printers; 3 microfiche readers; 1 microfiche printer; 6 filmstrip projectors; 2 slide projectors; 1 copy machine; 4 record players; 1 listening center	
Staff Positions:	Director	40 hrs/wk @ \$28,860/yr.
	Librarian	40 hrs/wk @ \$13,895/yr.
	Children's Librarian	40 hrs/wk @ \$16,890/yr.
	Librarian Assistant	40 hrs/wk @ \$12,002/yr.
	Librarian Assistant	40 hrs/wk @ \$11,440/yr.
	Librarian Assistant	35 hrs/wk @ \$ 9,064/yr.

Table 8.2.9-2 (continued)  
LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

	Clerk	35 hrs/wk @ \$ 8,226/yr.
	Clerk	20 hrs/wk @ \$ 4,700/yr.
	Clerk	20 hrs/wk @ \$ 4,066/yr.
	Pages (4)	18 hrs/wk @ \$ 2,012/yr.
Total Staff:	10 FTE	
Staff Budget:	\$128,811	
Special Programs:	Summer reading, story hour, films, displays	
Circulation:	137,017	
Circulation/Capita:	9.5	
Total Budget:	\$219,489	
Budget/Capita:	\$15.28	
Source:	Director, Scottsbluff Public Library, Scottsbluff, Nebraska, June 1983, and Library Statistical Report for FY 1981-82, Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska.	

funds, reading areas may have to be converted to use as shelf space. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on Scottsbluff Public Library.

Current library staffing is adequate. If an increased budget is received, the library plans to develop more automated systems and word processing capabilities and update library staff job descriptions.

The Scottsbluff Public Library charges a user fee of \$25 for noncity residents. Prior to adoption of a user fee system, 45 percent of library users came from outside of Scottsbluff, the majority from Gering. The library budget was not able to support users who were not contributing taxes to service funding. Since the fee was implemented, library circulation has declined, with increased use of Inter-Library Loan services, for which fees are not charged to nonresidents.

#### 8.2.9.1.2 Panhandle Library Network System

Scottsbluff Public Library participates in the Panhandle Library Network system (Section 7.2.9), and serves as the regional library for the northern Panhandle region.

#### 8.2.9.1.3 Nebraska Western College Library

Statistics on the library resources available to students of Nebraska Western College as well as residents of Scotts Bluff and surrounding counties are provided in Table 8.2.9-3. The College and its library are governed by an elected board serving a 12-county area of western Nebraska.

The facility was built in 1968 and is in excellent condition, with more than adequate space for the student population served, and adequate facilities to provide services to other users in the region. There are 175 study stations, including 37 desks, 24 cubicles, and 148 chairs for reading and studying. There are four multipurpose rooms used for the nursing program, meetings, films, and other audiovisual programs. Administrative and staff work space is adequate. There are no plans for future expansion, as the library furniture and shelves can be rearranged within existing space should more space be required. The service delivery level is adequate for the next several years. Even with continued increases in student enrollment, current staffing is sufficient to meet service requirements.

The Nebraska Western College Library has an Apple II microcomputer, used for library functions and records including inventory programs, current periodical lists, overdue lists, and circulation statistics. Limited computer time is set aside for student use. The library distributes information to students and the community on new acquisitions, programs, and media resources. When the Scottsbluff Public Library instituted the fee system, the College Library utilization increased substantially.

#### 8.2.9.1.4 Special Libraries

The following special libraries are available in Scottsbluff: the Scotts Bluff National Monument Library and Archive, Platte Valley Bible College Library, and the Lockwood Memorial Library at West Nebraska General Hospital.

Table 8.2.9-3

LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES  
NEBRASKA WESTERN COLLEGE LIBRARY - 1983

Service Population: Scotts Bluff, Banner, Box Butte, Cherry, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Grant, Kimball, Morrill, Sioux, Sheridan Counties. Total Population: 100,566; Students: about 1,000

Total Floor Space: 34,476 sq ft

Shelf Space: 2,751 linear ft

Seats: 172

Multipurpose Rooms: 4

Hours/Week: 60

Books Adult: 21,299

Children: 700

Total: 21,999

Nonbook Materials: 200,195 (including periodicals)

Books/Materials Budget: \$106,923

Equipment: Microcomputer; 15 film projectors; 19 slide projectors; 28 filmstrip projectors; 7 language masters; 1 copy machine; 4 video recorders; 1 microfiche reader; 1 microfilm reader; 13 phonographs; 62 tape recorders; 4 opaque projectors

Staff Positions:

Director	40 hrs/wk
Technical Services	40 hrs/wk
Public Services	40 hrs/wk
Media Clerk	20 hrs/wk
Secretary	20 hrs/wk
5 Student Aides	10-12 hrs/wk

Total Staff: 5.5 FTE

Staff Budget: \$86,823

Table 8.2.9-3 (continued)  
LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Special Programs:	Student Orientation Newsletter Films
Circulation:	27,964
Total Budget:	\$193,746

Source: Librarian, Nebraska Western College Library, Scottsbluff,  
Nebraska, June 1983.

#### 8.2.9.2 Projected Baseline

Under baseline conditions, library services are assumed to remain at constant levels. Library utilization by the baseline population is assumed to remain at the same level as utilization by the current population, and no increase in per capita library funding is projected. Table 8.2.9-4 provides projections of library book and staff needs for the Scottsbluff baseline population from 1984 through 1992.

No space expansions are planned for the Scottsbluff Public Library. With increased user population, based on the current ratio of library space per capita, there will be some increased facility crowding by 1992.

To maintain the current Scottsbluff Public Library per capita ratio of 4.2 books per resident, holdings will have to be expanded. The number of books projected to be added will be from 250 to 800 in each year through 1992, as shown in Table 8.2.9-4.

For the existing ratio of 1 library staff person to 1,436 population to be maintained for the future baseline population, one additional staff member will need to be added by 1991.

#### 8.2.9.3 Project Impacts

Effects of the project on library services in Scottsbluff are shown in Table 8.2.9-5. Immigration to the city of Scottsbluff associated with the project will occur in 1987, 1988, and 1989. The peak year is projected to be 1988 when the immigrant population will be 235. From 1990 on, there are estimated to be no project immigrants in Scottsbluff.

Table 8.2.9-5 provides projections of book and staff provision to the immigrant population at Nebraska Library Commission service levels. At this standard, an additional 820 books in 1988 will meet the project population demand, and an additional 4 staff hours per week will be required. However, current library book and staff levels in the Scottsbluff Public Library are more than adequate according to Nebraska Library Commission guidelines. The projected immigrant population will place a temporary increased demand for services on the library, reducing the level of service provision per capita. The new books per capita and staff levels-to-population created by the increased population will remain adequate. The increased population will lower the availability of space per capita for the 3 years of immigration, but a need for increased space is foreseen without the project due to the large library book collection.

#### 8.2.9.4 Mitigative Measures

Impacts associated with the project are negligible, therefore, no mitigative measures are required.

Table 8.2.9-4

SCOTTSLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BASELINE BOOK AND STAFF DEMAND PROJECTIONS  
(1984 to 1992)

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Projected Baseline Population	14,540	14,630	14,710	14,790	14,860	14,940	15,010	15,080	15,140
Book Demand Over 1982 Holdings (60,547)	810	380	340	340	300	340	300	300	250
Staff Demand Over 1982 Level (10 FTE)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

Note: Based on existing (1982) levels of service to population: 4.2 books per capita and 1 staff per 1,436 population. Additional book demand is rounded to nearest 10 books, expressed as yearly incremental increase. Additional staff presented as yearly additions to staff to meet service demand of baseline population at 1982 staff-to-population ratio.

Table 8.2.9-5

SCOTTSBLUFF PUBLIC LIBRARY  
INMIGRANT POPULATION BOOK AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STAFF DEMAND  
(1986-1989)

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Projected Immigrant Population	67	67	235	168
Book Demand of Immigrants (Total)	230	230	820	590
Staff Demand of Immigrant Population (Total FTE)	0	0	0.1	0.1

Note: Immigrant population includes weekly commuters and transients based on Nebraska Library Commission guidelines for library service for Scottsbluff population: 35 books per capita and 1 staff per 2,000 population. Additional book demand is rounded to nearest 10 books, expressed as total books recommended for immigrant population in each year. Staff demand expressed as FTE personnel. One-tenths of a FTE staff member may be understood as representing 4 additional hours of staff time per week.



### 8.3 City of Gering

#### 8.3.1 General Government

##### 8.3.1.1 Baseline Description

###### 8.3.1.1.1 Organization and Administration

The City of Gering operates under a mayor-council form of government with a city administrator and active council committees. The Mayor is elected at large to a 4-year term and is presently serving his second term. The Council comprises eight elected positions, two from each of four wards. Four members are in their second terms, three are in their first terms, and one member is in his fourth term. Mayor compensation is \$1,200 per year, while City Council members receive \$600 per year.

The City also has eight Council committees made up of three Council members each, which oversee the activities of City departments. Table 8.3.1-1 lists these committees. The City Engineer is hired on a contract basis and is not a direct City employee. One department not shown by committee name is the City Library.

In addition to the Council, its committees, and the various city departments, the City of Gering also has active boards and commissions including the Clean Communities Commission, the Downtown Improvements Committee, and an interlocal agreement with Scotts Bluff County for civil defense.

Table 8.3.1-1

CITY OF GERING  
COUNCIL COMMITTEES - 1983

Electrical	Buildings, Audit, and Office
Water & Sewer	Sanitation
Police	Amusement and Recreation
Budget, Steets, and Alleys	Industrial and Engineering

Source: Administrative Assistant, City of Gering, unpublished list.

###### 8.3.1.1.2 Staffing

Staffing levels for the City of Gering have increased only slightly with city population increases over the past 20 years. Present employment of about 60 persons is considered adequate and is not expected to increase in the near future. Table 8.3.1-2 lists employment by department.

Table 8.3.1-2  
CITY OF GERING  
STAFFING BY DEPARTMENT - 1983

<u>Department</u>	<u>No. of Permanent Employees</u>
Mayor & Council	9
Administration and Office	12
City Engineer	Consultant
Streets	8
Electrical	11
Library	4
Water and Sewer	3
Parks and Recreation	5
TOTAL:	52

Source: Administrative Assistant, City of Gering.

#### 8.3.1.1.3 Capital Facilities

Capital facilities for administration of City of Gering general government consist of the City Hall, with the exception that the City Council meets in the meeting room of the City Library. The City Hall (once the Swan Hotel), contains over 8,000 square feet on 3 floors. Of the total area, approximately 5,000 square feet is available for administrative use; however, at present not all of this area is being heavily utilized. It should be noted that utilization of space presently allocated to administrative uses is heavy, but that remodeling would be necessary prior to utilization of certain available space. In addition, access for the handicapped is poor. Present space is barely adequate for City needs. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information.

City Street Maintenance shop space is limited principally to the main shop, which consists of one 1,800 square foot building of which all but 450 square feet of space is used for the shop. Shop space is considered adequate to meet present City needs.

#### 8.3.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

The City of Gering currently owns approximately 87 vehicles and major pieces of equipment. Overall rating is considered to be fair to good. For the most part, the City has generally been able to replace its fleet as necessary. Appendix E presents a partial inventory of major capital equipment.

### 8.3.1.2 Projected Baseline

#### 8.3.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

With the projected baseline, the City of Gering is projected to grow in population from 8,560 persons in 1983 to 11,180 persons in 1992. Recent changes in administrative staffing and utilization of modern computer and other management techniques indicate that some changes in both administration, and to a lesser extent, organization are likely during the analysis period. Organizationally, no major changes are foreseen; however, increases in population will place increased demands on virtually all departments. These demands will require increased staffing in some departments, more direct supervision time, and additional efforts by the eight City Council committees responsible for overseeing the various city departments. In addition, construction of the proposed Central Shops building is likely and, especially at the outset, will require special organizational and administrative attention.

Increased time for Council committees to oversee their departments could detract from those Council members' time for policy-related issues, but is not likely to be a serious problem. Overall, the City of Gering's recent administrative changes have equipped them to deal effectively with the population growth projected under the projected baseline.

#### 8.3.1.2.2 Staffing

General government (administrative) staffing will remain constant through the baseline analysis period, as the City has recently added staff. However, projected increases in population under baseline conditions could require increased staffing in the Police and Water and Sewer Departments. A slight increase in staffing for the proposed Central Shops operation is also projected. Table 8.3.1-3 illustrates projected staffing increases for the City of Gering between 1983 and 1992.

#### 8.3.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

In addition to the capital facilities presently owned by the City of Gering, two changes are likely within the analysis period of 1983 through 1992. First, it is anticipated that the proposed Central Shops building will contain approximately 12,000 square feet and be completely occupied in 1985. In addition, it is likely that some remodeling will be done to the City Hall to allow better utilization of available space. No other capital facilities changes are anticipated.

#### 8.3.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

Under baseline conditions, it is projected that additions to the City fleet will be made for the replacement of vehicles under existing vehicle and equipment retirement policies. Overall, there will be a generally higher utilization rate due to increased population, resulting in the need to retire certain units earlier than presently planned. Along with higher utilization will be the need for more intensive maintenance. Some small additions to the fleet for the Water and Sewer Department are possible between 1983 and 1992.

Table 8.3.1-3

PROJECTED BASELINE TOTAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT  
FOR THE CITY OF GERING  
(1983 TO 1992)

	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
--	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	------

Staffing	52	52	53	54	54	55	55	56	56	56
----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Source: Derived from baseline population projections and current total city government staff-to-population ratio.

### 8.3.1.3 Project Impacts

#### 8.3.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

Population increases are predicted to occur in 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989 in Gering due to the project.

This small level of peak year population increase (1.2%), coupled with the lack of direct impacts on the City of Gering, makes organizational or administrative changes due to the project highly unlikely.

#### 8.3.1.3.2 Staffing

The projected increases in population due to the project will place slight additional requirements on certain segments of City of Gering staff for a short period of time. While staff increases are unlikely, some overtime work may be required in 1987 by some staff to meet temporary increases in demand for certain public services such as sewer, water, and electricity.

#### 8.3.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

Only negligible impacts during 1983 to 1992 on capital facilities costs, utilization, condition, or inventory are likely to result in Gering from the project.

#### 8.3.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

It is likely that certain vehicles and equipment will get limited additional use due to the project, but no other impacts on capital equipment inventory, costs, or condition are likely to occur.

### 8.3.1.4 Mitigative Measures

Since only negligible impacts on City of Gering general government were identified, no mitigative measures are in order.

## 8.3.2 Sewage Treatment

### 8.3.2.1 Baseline Description

Gering has a multiple-cell lagoon system for waste treatment. The average flow to the lagoons is currently 1.35 mgd. Of this amount 1.02 mgd is domestic waste and 0.33 mgd is industrial. The unit load for domestic waste has been computed to be 119 gpcd (1.02 mgd/8,560 people). The peak design flow for the plant has been reported to be 3.86 mgd, twice the average design capacity, 1.93 mgd. Hence, on an average-day basis, the plant has excess capacity for an additional 4,874 people; but on a peak-day basis, the plant, though recently expanded and upgraded, has hydraulic capacity for the peak flow (roughly 2.7 mgd) but can treat well only 1.93 mgd.

The City has a separate sewer system for sanitary flows. The City rates its sewers as adequate today and is planning no improvements or enlargements.

The City's water supply and wastewater departments together are operated by a total of three employees. The wastewater budget in 1983 is \$152,000 per year. The collection and treatment fee is \$2.70 for the first 10,000 gallons each month. Apparently, the rate is somewhat lower for more than 10,000 gallons, but the lower rate was not reported. At \$0.27 per 1,000 gallons, the City's annual revenue from domestic customers alone is \$100,500 ( $1.02 \text{ mgd} \times \$0.27/1,000 \times 365$ ).

#### 8.3.2.2 Projected Baseline

A growth rate equal to approximately 290 persons per year has been projected. By 1992 there will be 11,180 residents, compared to 8,560 today. In the 9-year period, this represents a 3.4-percent growth rate per year, and an overall increase in population and sewage flow of 30.6 percent. Because the sewer system is rated adequate by the City today, it is assumed that the sewers will remain adequate for this growth, or that the City will be making routine (3 percent per year) expansions to the sewer system as required.

The treatment plant has already been shown to have capacity greater than the current average flow (equivalent to an additional 4,874 people). On that basis, the plant should be more than adequate to handle the flows contributed by an additional 2,620 people. However, there will be overloads of the 1.93 mgd treatment capacity on either an average peak-day or a daily peak-hour basis, when flows will be roughly twice the average condition. Specifically, the peak flow in 1992 will comprise 2.66 mgd domestic flow ( $11,180 \times 119 \times 2$ ) and 0.331 mgd of industrial waste flow, for a total of 2.99 mgd. The plant's peak hydraulic capacity now is 3.86 mgd. In peak-flow periods (which occur daily for several hours as well as for long periods in high-flow seasons), the plant will be discharging only partially treated wastewater. This condition, while not desirable, is not unusual.

#### 8.3.2.3 Project Impacts

In the peak year, 1988, 116 immigrants will add a sewage flow of 13,800 gallons per day ( $116 \times 119$ ). Given the baseline population of 10,260 in 1988, the total sewage flow on an average-day basis would be 1.57 mgd ( $10,376 \times 119 + 0.331 \text{ mgd of industrial flow}$ ). This compares to 1.35 mgd today and to the 1.93 mgd design capacity. On a peak-day basis, the flow will be roughly 3.14 mgd ( $1.57 \times 2$ ), or 0.72 mgd below peak design capacity ( $3.86 - 3.14$ ).

The financial impact of 116 more people in the peak year will be an added monthly sewer-service revenue of \$113 for the City ( $116 \times 119 \text{ gpcd} \times 365/12 \times \$0.27/1,000$ ). The annual revenue will be \$1,360. The rate of \$0.27 per 1,000 gallons appears to be recovering all costs now.

#### 8.3.2.4 Mitigative Measures

Because the project itself will not cause adverse effects beyond those experienced in baseline conditions, no mitigations are required for sewage treatment in Gering.

### 8.3.3 Water Treatment and Distribution

#### 8.3.3.1 Baseline Description

The City owns and operates 9 water supply wells whose total capacity is 9.0 mgd. There is one well that could be expanded or rehabilitated to add another 700 gallons per minute of pumping capacity, equivalent to another 1.0 mgd. No treatment is provided.

The City has reported that for a recent service population of 7,760, the average delivery was 2.744 mgd at 354 gpcd. Peak flow has been 6.5 mgd, and peak flow plus firefighting flow has been 8.33 mgd. The existing (1983) population of Gering is 8,560. Given the recent per capita demand, the average daily demand for 8,560 people would be 3.03 mgd ( $8,560 \times 354$ ). The peak demand, computed from the ratio of the recent peak-to-average demands would be 7.17 mgd ( $3.03 \times 6.5/2.744$ ). Peak flow with a firefighting demand would be 9.0 mgd ( $7.17 + 8.33 - 6.5$ ). All these demands, computed from this study's 1983 population (8,560), could be met with the existing 9.0 mgd of capacity.

On a peak-day basis, excess capacity exists in the water system for 2,182 persons ( $9.0 - 7.17 \text{ mgd}/354$ )  $\div$  ( $6.5/2.744$ ).

Water distribution piping in Gering ranges from 4 to 20-inch pipes which are maintained at 80 to 110 pounds per square inch pressure. There are two storage tanks. One is an elevated tank of 0.2 MG, and the other is a 1.0 MG ground-level tank.

The staff for the Water Department are the same three employees who operate both the water and wastewater system. The budget for the water supply operation is \$265,000 (1983). Fees are charged for water used, but there is no tap-in fee for new connections. Water rates are \$3.50 for the first 10,000 gallons used and \$0.20 per 1,000 gallons thereafter. Therefore, a monthly bill for a household is \$7.42 ( $\$3.50 + \$0.20/1,000 \text{ gal} \times 19,610 \text{ gal}$ ). Monthly revenue from water sales can be estimated as \$23,096 ( $8,560/2.75 \times \$7.42/\text{mo}$ ) or \$277,160 per year.

#### 8.3.3.2 Projected Baseline

Projections reveal that population in Gering will rise steadily to 11,180 in 1992, an increase of 2,620 people over today's level. As described earlier, the Gering system has excess capacity for 2,182 persons. Therefore, some baseline water-supply facilities expansions should occur.

The 2,620 people in 1992 will represent approximately 953 new families. Added revenue to the City, therefore, will be \$7,071 per month or \$84,855 per year ( $953 \times \$7.42 \times 12 \text{ mo}$ ). Added pumping requirements will have energy costs of about \$41 per day, or \$1,247 per month or \$14,965 per year. Net revenue to the City then will be \$5,824 per month and \$69,890 per year. Impacts in earlier years will be lower in direct proportion to the lower populations expected.

#### 8.3.3.3 Project Impacts

In 1988, 116 people are projected to be immigrants induced by the project. This is the maximum immigration expected. Net immigrants in the following year will drop to 83, and by 1990 there will be none remaining. Water demands in the peak year will increase over the baseline condition by 1.16 percent (116/9,970). Earlier and later-year increases over baseline will be proportionately less. Accordingly, no water supply facilities impacts can be anticipated.

The financial impacts of the project-induced population in 1988 will be an added revenue to the City of \$10,329 per year from water sales. Power costs, computed as before, will be \$664 per year, yielding a net increase in revenue of \$9,665 per year.

#### 8.3.3.4 Mitigative Measures

Because no impacts will occur to the water supply system in Gering, no mitigative measures will be necessary.

### 8.3.4 Solid Waste Disposal

#### 8.3.4.1 Baseline Description

Gering contracts with a private firm to collect all solid wastes within the city's limits. The firm, Heimbuck Disposal, collects wastes from 311 commercial accounts and 2,700 residential accounts (1983 population is 8,480) for disposal at the Gering landfill. Collections are performed on a once per week basis with two 25-cy and two 30-cy, side-loading packer vehicles. More frequent collections are provided as necessary. Vehicles are operated by one-man crews.

An average of 26 loads of solid waste per week is collected by Heimbuck. Some additional wastes are brought by private individuals and businesses directly to the landfill for disposal. This landfill, owned and operated by the City since 1972, is located approximately 3 miles west of the city. The site extends over 37.4 acres and has had a maximum of 10 acres filled during the past 11 years. The site has been designed and licensed to accept all forms of household and commercial wastes, discarded appliances, construction and demolition wastes, wood products, and tires. No industrial, chemical, or toxic/hazardous wastes are accepted for disposal at the landfill. Cover material is readily available at the site.

The City of Gering itself employs five people to operate the landfill and one person is responsible for administration of the overall system. Heimbuck Disposal employs one part-time and three full-time employees. Revenues to the solid waste system will be about \$197,000 in 1983, with \$149,500 earmarked for Heimbuck for the collection service. The remaining \$37,500 will serve to meet other operating expenses. Fees for residential collections are \$4.50 per month, with commercial accounts somewhat higher, depending on quantity of wastes and frequency of collection. A separate fee schedule is in effect for individuals disposing directly at the landfill.



#### 8.3.4.2 Projected Baseline

The population of Gering is projected to increase by 30.6 percent over the 1983 to 1992 period. During this time solid waste generation will similarly increase, rising from 21.20 tons per day in 1983 to 27.69 tons per day in 1992.

Gering does not operate a public waste collection system, choosing to contract with a private firm. All indications are that the City has found this arrangement satisfactory and will continue with it for the foreseeable future. The City does own and operate the landfill site which, under present disposal levels, has a remaining life conservatively estimated at 25 years. While the percentage increase in solid waste generation through 1992 may appear high as a percentage, the relatively low level of wastes actually requiring disposal is not expected to pose a serious impact on the equipment, manpower, or levels of expenditure necessary to operate the system.

#### 8.3.4.3 Project Impacts

The increased quantity of solid waste in Gering resulting from the project is a direct outgrowth of the projected immigration of 104 permanent project-related workers, their families, and other support personnel, plus 12 transients. During peak-year immigration (1988), an additional 116 people are expected to reside in Gering, declining to 83 in 1989 and to none thereafter.

Based on these population projections, during the course of 1988 Gering will experience an increase in project-induced waste generation amounting to approximately 556 pounds per day, or 101.5 tons per year. This amount will decline in the next year to 74.28 tons (1988). The quantity of project-induced solid waste generated over 1986 through 1989 is estimated to total 233.1 tons over the 27,640 tons of waste expected under the projected baseline condition.

Given the short duration and low overall increase in waste generation resulting from the project, no impact is expected. The arrangement under which solid waste is collected and disposed appears capable of absorbing the increased waste load expected during the project's construction phase. No additional collection vehicles will be necessary.

#### 8.3.4.4 Mitigative Measures

No solid waste disposal mitigation in Gering will be necessary because no impacts are anticipated.

#### 8.3.5 Stormwater

##### 8.3.5.1 Baseline Description

Gering is currently drained primarily by surface drainage (such as roadway swales and drainage ditches), although new subdivisions are required to have storm sewer systems. There is a perceived need among local officials for more storm sewers than the city currently has.

As shown in Table 3.2.5-2, developed areas of Gering can generate as much as 450 cfs of peak runoff in a 2-year storm event. This would require eight 60-inch storm sewers. For the most developed, commercial part of town, approximately 3 equivalent 60-inch outfalls would be required.

While 0.9 inch per hour was the projected 1-hour rainfall intensity for a 2-year storm, rainfall data from nearby Torrington, Wyoming, suggest that a 1-hour, 2-year storm would amass 1.04 inches of rain. The 100-year, 24-hour rainfall in Torrington is 4.3 inches. Hence, larger events than the design rainfall used here are possible.

#### 8.3.5.2 Projected Baseline

Gering population is projected to grow from 8,560 to 11,180 by the year 1992, an increase of 2,620 people. If those additional people all require new housing, 238 new acres of single-family development would be necessary:  $2,620 / (2.75 \times 4 \text{ homes/acre})$ . This would increase the developed area from roughly 1,000 acres to 1,238, and the C-value of 0.5 for the whole city would stay the same. Runoff would increase from 450 cfs to 557.1 cfs.

This increase in flow indicates a need to increase equivalent 60-inch storm outfalls for the city from 8 to 11, and to increase the number in the most developed area from 3 to 4.

Since few storm drains exist, and new developments are required to add storm sewers, it is presumed that those required additions will be made throughout the baseline period as new housing areas are developed. Standard practice is for private land developers to add these sewers and to incorporate their cost in the price of the new homes.

#### 8.3.5.3 Project Impacts

The peak year of project-related immigration to Gering will be 1988, when 104 new residents are projected to move there. This will represent an increase of 104 over the baseline population of 9,970, and the total population of 10,074 will be 1,514 people greater than today.

The baseline population alone will have increased by 1,410 persons. They would require 128 acres of new home sites, assuming they all required new homes. Accordingly, the developed area would have increased from 1,000 to 1,128 acres; the runoff coefficient would be unchanged (0.5); and the 1988 peak runoff rate would be 507.6 cfs. This would require 10 equivalent 60-inch storm outfalls, as opposed to the 8 needed today and the 11 eventually needed in the baseline condition. The downtown area would need four, compared with today's need for three.

The added 104 project-induced residents would not change this situation, because no net housing demand in Gering to house these people has been projected. Hence, no new storm sewers would be required.

No stormwater impacts from the project are predicted, but some improvements would be required by 1988 to accommodate baseline growth.

#### 8.3.5.4 Mitigative Measures

Because the project will not induce stormwater facilities impacts above baseline conditions, no mitigative measures are warranted in Gering.

#### 8.3.6 Law Enforcement

##### 8.3.6.1 Baseline Description

The Gering Police Department has 13 sworn personnel plus 1 reserve officer. Of these, ten are on regular patrol duty, two are in command positions, and one is a detective. Civilian support personnel consist of six dispatchers, one parking control officer, and one animal control officer. The starting salary for patrolmen is \$1,011 and for dispatchers is \$721 per month.

This staff operates with three marked patrol cars and two unmarked cars. The Department also has an additional car used for undercover work. The patrol cars last 2 years, at which time they are replaced at a cost of about \$9,000 each.

The Police Department is quartered in the Gering Municipal Building. The Department's 960 square feet are divided into a dispatch room; offices for the chief, detectives, sergeants, and deputy chief; and a training room. The Department has no jail, as all prisoners are taken to the county jail. Average space per employee in the Gering Police Department is 46 square feet. Even though not all employees are on duty at the same time and many of the employees work outside the building, the figure is quite low compared to comparable figures in other police departments, and the Department should be considered overcrowded. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on Gering the Police Department.

##### 8.3.6.2 Projected Baseline

Under baseline conditions, the population of Gering will increase steadily from a 1983 figure of 8,560 to 11,180 in 1992. Using existing service levels (1.52 sworn officers and 0.7 civilian employees per 1,000 population, 0.23 marked cars, and 0.15 unmarked cars per sworn officer, and 50 square feet per employee) as a standard, this population growth will result in the need for additional sworn officers in 1985, 1987, 1989, and 1991. Additional civilian personnel will be needed in 1986 and 1990. Needs for marked cars will increase by one in 1989 while an additional unmarked car will be required in 1991. The Police Department needs additional space regardless of the number of employee increases, and a larger staff will only intensify this need and create further overcrowding in the existing facility.

Based on salary costs of \$13,000 for sworn personnel, an average of \$8,595 for civilians and \$10,000 replacement costs for vehicles, the additional needs will cost \$375,950 through 1992. No projection is made for the cost of the Department's space needs as such an estimate would depend on highly variable factors such as whether the Department built or rented space.

#### 8.3.6.3 Project Impacts

The peak-year population increase in Gering attributable to the Proposed Action is 1.2% or 117 persons in 1987. This figure is insufficient to require any additional staff, vehicles or facilities over Baseline needs to maintain existing service levels.

#### 8.3.6.4 Mitigative Measures

The impact from the project described in the preceding section is minor, and will require no mitigative measures.

#### 8.3.7 Fire Protection

The Gering Volunteer Fire Department has the same volunteers as, and shares the fire station with, the Gering Rural Fire District. These two agencies are discussed together in Section 8.13.

#### 8.3.8 Local Recreational Facilities

##### 8.3.8.1 Baseline Description

###### 8.3.8.1.1 Organization, Administration, and Planning

The City of Gering's Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for eight community parks and a number of recreational facilities. The Department Director is responsible to the City Administrator and the six member Park Board, which establishes Department policy. Gering's outdoor swimming pool is not under Parks and Recreation Department jurisdiction, but is operated and maintained by the City's Department of Amusement. Pool managers are responsible to a City Councilman who chairs the community's Recreation Committee.

The parks, recreation, and pool staff currently total 24, 5 of whom are full-time. The remaining 19 employees serve in seasonal positions maintaining park grounds and lifeguarding at the pool.

###### 8.3.8.1.2 Recreation Programs

Recreational activity diversity in Gering, measured by the number of activities available, has remained stable over the last 3 years. The City offers no organized recreational programs other than swimming lessons, although it does offer facilities for swimming, diving, tennis, horseshoes, golf, picnicking, playground activities, softball, and baseball. According to local officials, the most popular recreational activity appears to be golf, although no user participation statistics are available to support this.

###### 8.3.8.1.3 Recreation Facilities

Gering does not have a recreation center, hence it relies on a number of recreational facilities located within the park system. Most facilities are under direct control of the Parks and Recreation Department, the exception being the outdoor swimming pool. Information regarding construction cost, annual operation and maintenance costs, and staffing at the individual park and recreation facility level was not available. A number of needs were

expressed by the Department, specifically more neighborhood parks and additional lighted ballfields. In contrast to problems voiced by other jurisdictions regarding developed parks, vandalism has not been a serious concern in Gering.

#### 8.3.8.1.4 Parks

Gering has 86.5 acres of developed parkland, 65 of which are contained in the park-recreation complex known as Oregon Trail Park. The total park system comprises eight separate parks having a wide range of recreational facilities. This acreage does not include the municipal golf course. No undeveloped parklands are reserved in the community, although there are areas within Oregon Trail Park at various stages of development. No additional parkland acquisition has been planned for or budgeted, even though subdivision areas do exist that have park needs. Table 8.3.8-1 presents an inventory of parks and recreation facilities within the city of Gering.

#### 8.3.8.1.5 Special Use Facilities

The City of Gering operates and maintains a nine-hole golf course.

#### 8.3.8.1.6 Other Recreational Opportunities

Within the Gering area are a number of recreational programs and facilities provided by other public agencies or private enterprise. These include the Legion Baseball and Gering Organized Baseball leagues, the Senior Citizens Center, the public library, and a small number of commercial recreation opportunities.

The Legion Baseball program and Gering Organized Baseball coordinate with Gering for use of City-owned ballfields which the Parks and Recreation Department maintains.

Commercial recreation facilities within Gering are limited due to its size and proximity to recreation facilities in nearby Scottsbluff. The residents of Gering have access to one bowling alley, a nine-hole golf course, a health club, and one roller skating rink. There appear to be no plans to further develop Gering's commercial recreation facilities.

#### 8.3.8.1.7 Budget

Information for the last three fiscal years is presented in Table 8.3.8-2. Taking inflation into account, the total budget for the Parks and Recreation Department has increased from \$197,717 in FY 1980-81 to \$224,364 in FY 1982-83 (1982 dollars using Municipal Index Multiplier). Capital expenditures have remained virtually unchanged. Operation and maintenance expenditures, in real dollars (adjusted for inflation), have actually declined by approximately 3 percent over the last 3 fiscal years. All sources of revenue of the Department are not available, although the Department is supported by the City's general fund. Information concerning receipt of parks and recreation grants is not available.

Table 8.3.8-1  
INVENTORY OF EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES  
GERING, NEBRASKA

	Acres in Size	Ballfields	Tennis Courts	Picnic Area	Playground	Swim - Outdoor	Rodeo Facilities
<u>Parks</u>							
Oregon Trail	65.0	15 <sup>a</sup>	6		1	1	1
Northfield	7.0			1	1		
Gardner	2.5			1	1		
Legion	N/A						
Hampton	3.0			1			
Roundhouse	3.0			1			
Carl Gray	3.0						
Water Tower	3.0			1			
TOTAL:	86.5	15	6	5	3	1	1

Notes: a One field lighted.  
N/A Indicates data not available.

Source: Parks and Recreation Department Director.

Table 8.3.8-2

PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET  
GERING, NEBRASKA

		<u>FY 1980-81</u>	<u>FY 1981-82</u>	<u>FY 1982-83</u>
Parks				
Total (actual)	92,150	96,589	107,664	
Capital Expenditures		15,747	20,000	23,000
Operation & Maintenance		76,403	76,589	84,664
Golf				
Total (actual)	59,767	67,870	60,900	
Capital Expenditures		10,000	10,000	10,000
Operation & Maintenance		49,767	57,870	50,900
Total Parks & Recreation				
Total (actual)	151,917	164,459	168,564	
Capital Expenditures		25,747	30,000	33,000
Operation & Maintenance		126,170	134,459	135,564

Source: Director, Parks and Recreation Department.

8.3.8.2 Projected Baseline

The baseline scenario projects an additional 2,620 people residing in Gering by 1992, for a total of 11,180. Based on existing ratios, the additional residents would create a need for about 26 additional acres of parkland, which should be distributed in the residential neighborhoods. The City could adopt a subdivision ordinance requiring dedication to the City of suitable parkland from residential subdivisions; otherwise, existing residents will experience declining parks and recreation services or will be taxed to pay for new parks to serve new residents.

8.3.8.3 Project Impacts

The 1983 population estimate for the city of Gering is 8,560 residents. As with Scottsbluff, population increases attributable to the proposed project occur over a 4-year period (1986-1989). The cumulative or total population, is anticipated to be 10,086 people during peak year (1988). The proposed project accounts for a small part of that figure - 115 people in peak year, dropping to 83 in 1989. Gering's system of parks and recreation can absorb this small temporary population increase of 1.13 percent. No additional parkland, facilities, or staffing will be required.

#### 8.3.8.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures are required.

#### 8.3.9 Library Facilities

##### 8.3.9.1 Baseline Description

Library services are provided to residents of Gering by the Gering Public Library and through cooperation with the Panhandle Library Network system.

##### 8.3.9.1.1 Gering Public Library

To measure the adequacy of actual service delivery according to recommended standards, a summary comparison is presented in Table 8.3.9-1. Statistics on facilities and services available at the Gering Public Library are provided in Table 8.3.9-2.

Table 8.3.9-1

#### GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES: ACTUAL VERSUS RECOMMENDED

	<u>Actual Service Level</u>	<u>Recommended NLC/WSL Standard<sup>1</sup></u>
Space per Capita	1.34 sq ft	1 sq ft
Books per Capita	3.5	4
Staff per Population	1:2,240	1:2,000
Budget per Capita	\$9.48	\$16.09

Note:<sup>1</sup> Wyoming State Library standards used for staff and budget, as no Nebraska Library Commission quantitative standards exist for these services.

Sources: "Guidelines for Public Library Service in Nebraska," Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, 1980, and Wyoming public library standards. Based on 1982 population of 8,290.

The library building is 20 years old and is in excellent condition with an addition made in 1980. No further plans for expansion of space exist, as there is room for expansion of facilities and services within the existing structure. Services include a new automated checkout system. The community meeting room, with capacity for 100 persons, is heavily utilized. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on the Gering Public Library. When the Scottsbluff Public Library initiated user fees, registration and circulation at the Gering Public Library increased, causing short-term strains on staff and services; however, library service delivery has stabilized.



Table 8.3.9-2

LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES  
GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FY 1981-1982

Service Population:	City of Gering (1982 = 8290)		
Total Floor Space:	11,135 sq ft		
Floor Space/Capita:	1.3 sq ft		
Shelf Space:	600 linear ft		
Seats:	35		
Multipurpose Rooms:	1		
Hours/Week:	52 Winter, 48 Summer		
Books	Adult:	20,492	
	Children:	8,834	
	Total:	29,326	
Books/Capita:	3.5		
Nonbook Materials:	1,184		
Total Library Materials:	30,510		
Materials/Capita:	3.70		
Books/Materials Budget:	\$18,305		
Equipment:	1 16-mm projector, 3 tape players, 1 microfiche reader, 1 microfiche printer, 3 filmstrip projectors, 1 copying machine		
Staff Positions:	Director	35 hrs/wk	\$15,662/yr.
	Librarian	26 hrs/wk	\$ 6,198/yr.
	Librarian	24 hrs/wk	\$ 6,672/yr.
	Librarian	24 hrs/wk	\$ 8,332/yr.
	Librarian	8 hrs/wk	\$ 1,689/yr.
	Shelver	6 hrs/wk	\$ 1,045/yr.
	Shelver	8 hrs/wk	\$ 1,393/yr.

Table 8.3.9-2  
LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Total Staff:	3.7 FTE
Staff Budget:	\$47,552
Special Programs:	Summer reading, exhibits, films, book fair.
Circulation:	76,899
Circulation/Capita:	9.3
Total Budget:	\$78,620
Budget/Capita:	\$9.48
Source:	Director, Gering Public Library, Gering, Nebraska, June 1983, and Library Statistical Report for FY 1981-82, Nebraska Library Commission, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Staffing and budget per population are lower than recommended levels, but there are no major unmet needs for library services in the community. The library would like to develop programs for adults. Access to the Nebraska Union Catalog encourages use of Inter-Library Loans and the Panhandle Library Network system resources. The library also coordinates some book collection development with Gering public school libraries through interaction on a library resource advisory board.

#### 8.3.9.1.2 Panhandle Library Network System

The Gering Public Library works with the Panhandle Library Network system to share library resources with other libraries in the western Nebraska region, as discussed in Section 7.2.9.

#### 8.3.9.2 Projected Baseline

Projected library service needs for the city of Gering under baseline conditions were determined assuming an extension of current service levels and no increase in library funding per capita. Detailed projections of baseline book and staff needs are presented in Table 8.3.9-3.

An addition to Gering Public Library was completed in 1980. No further facility expansions are planned. If necessary, there is room for expansion within the existing building. Existing space per capita is 1.34 square feet, or 0.34 over the Nebraska Library Commission guideline of 1 square foot per capita. Following this guideline, there is adequate space in the Gering library facility for a population of 11,135.

Currently, there are 3.5 books per resident. In order to maintain this level with an increased baseline population, the library will need to add from 990 to 1,930 books to the current collection in each year through 1992.

The current staff level per population is 1:2,240. To maintain library services at this level, the library will need to augment its staff by one additional staff member in 1987 and one in 1989.

#### 8.3.9.3 Project Impacts

Effects of the project on library services in Gering are as shown in Table 8.3.9-4. Immigrant population is projected for the city of Gering in 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989. From 1990 on, there is no estimated immigration into Gering due to the project.

Existing library services provided by the Gering Public Library are 3.5 books per capita, one full-time equivalent staff member per 2,240 population, and 1.34 square feet of space per capita. Books and space per capita are currently more than adequate according to Nebraska Library Commission guidelines. In 1988, a peak of 460 books over baseline needs should be added to meet book demand of immigrants at the state guideline service level. Four additional hours of staff time per week will meet the project population service needs in 1988.

Table 8.3.9-3

GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BASELINE BOOK AND STAFF DEMAND PROJECTIONS  
(1984 to 1992)

	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Projected Baseline Population	8,830	9,110	9,390	9,670	9,970	10,260	10,570	10,860	11,180
Book Demand Over 1982 Holdings (29,326)	1,930	990	990	990	1,060	1,030	1,100	1,030	1,130
Staff Demand Over 1982 Level (3.7 FTE)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0

Note: Based on existing (1982) levels of service to population: 3.5 books per capita and 1 staff per 2,241 population. Additional book demand is rounded to nearest 10 books, expressed as yearly incremental increase. Additional staff presented as yearly additions to staff to meet service demand of baseline population at 1982 staff-to-population ratio.

Table 8.3.9-4  
GERING PUBLIC LIBRARY  
INMIGRANT POPULATION BOOK AND STAFF DEMAND

	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>
Projected Immigrant Population	33	33	115	82
Book Demand of Immigrant Population (Total)	130	130	460	330
Staff Demand of Immigrant Population (Total FTE)	0	0	0.1	0

Note: Immigrant population projection includes weekly commuters and transients based on Nebraska Library Commission guidelines for service for Gering population: 4 books per capita and 1 staff per 2,000 population. Additional book demand is rounded to nearest 10 books, expressed as total books recommended for immigrant population in each year. Staff demand expressed as FTE personnel. One-tenths of an FTE staff member may be understood as representing 4 additional hours of staff time per week.

#### 8.3.9.4 Mitigative Measures

Impacts on library services in the city of Gering will be minimal, and should not require mitigative measures due to their short-term duration. However, the public library may consider implementation of some mitigative measures such as those offered in Section 3.1.4.4.

#### 8.4 Village of Henry, Nebraska: Community Profile

Henry (1980 population, 155) has a village form of government with a Board of Directors. The Board has five members, one of whom is appointed Chairman. The Chairman has held his position for 3 years and has been a Board member for 31 years. The other Board members have served an average of 10 years. Members spend approximately 4 hours a month on village business, including Board meetings. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in Henry.

Henry has one part-time summer employee who takes care of the park grounds. All other Village work is contracted. The total Village budget for the current fiscal year is \$9,200. The largest item is sewer maintenance of \$1,500.

The Village owns two buildings: the Village Hall, built in 1915 and in good condition, and the fire house also in good condition. Henry owns a park and a garbage dump site where the Village water tower is also located. There are plans to add on to the sewer lagoon in 1984.

Henry's water and sewer systems are in fair condition. The water system is 60-years old. The Village is adding another lagoon to the sewer system. The electric, natural gas, telephone, and garbage collection services are all privately provided, with good service.

Henry has one part-time constable. The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office in Gering provides law enforcement services. Henry has no police facilities or equipment, and experiences little crime.

The Henry Volunteer Fire Department has 26 members. It has no training program, but the Fire Chief is in the process of setting one up. The fire hydrant system is connected to 4-inch mains and has 40 pounds of pressure.

The fire house holds three fire trucks. Firefighting equipment is obsolete, and consists of two pre-1946 low-capacity pumper/tankers in fair condition. The Department is redesigning a 1958 Army truck into a tanker. The Village has a fire insurance rating of eight.

Henry's recreation facilities include a park, a tennis court with basketball backboards, picnic tables, and playground equipment. Henry has no parks and recreation department or formal recreation budget. The school gymnasium, track, and baseball diamond are available to the public, although these facilities receive very little use.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Henry.

Table 8.4-1  
INVENTORY OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN  
SMALL COMMUNITIES  
SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY  
(1983)

	Mitchell	Morrill	Minatare	Terrytown	Lyman	Henry	Melbeta	McGrew
Total 1980 Population	1,959	1,097	969	727	551	155	151	110
Years mayor in office	8 mos.	12	24	12	3	31	15	1
Number of employees	24	21	7	5	13	1	0	3
Operating expenses	\$290,600	\$219,559	\$289,190	\$190,412	\$242,363	\$9,200	\$18,000	\$13,000
Gallons of water storage	200,000	250,000	55,000	750,000	100,000	Not Available	0	Wells
Water system condition	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	None
Sewer system condition	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate	None
No. of police officers	4	2	2	0	14	1	0	0
No. of police vehicles	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0

Table 8.4-1 Continued

INVENTORY OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN  
SMALL COMMUNITIES  
SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY

	<u>Mitchell</u>	<u>Morrill</u>	<u>Minatare</u>	<u>Terrytown</u>	<u>Lyman</u>	<u>Henry</u>	<u>Melbeta</u>	<u>McGrew</u>
No. of fire- fighters	37	30	24	0	21	26	34	15
Combined town/ rural district	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	No	yes	No
Size of largest main	8"	8"	6"	8"	8"	4"	None	None
Fire Insurance rating	7	7	7	7	8	8	9	9
Condition of firehouse	adequate	adequate	adequate	N/A	adequate	adequate	adequate	adequate
No. of pumpers and tankers	4	4	3	0	3	2	1	2
No. of "quick attack" units	4	4	1	0	1	0	1	1
No. of rescue units	2	1	2	0	2	0	0	0
No. of Emergency Medical Technicians	19	18	6	0	17	0	0	0

Source: Personal communications, July 1983, Mayor of Mitchell; Mayor of Morrill; Mayor of Minatare; Board Chairperson, Terrytown; Mayor of Lyman; Board Chairman, Henry; Board Chairperson, Melbeta; and Board Chairman, McGrew.



## **8.5      Village of Lyman, Nebraska: Community Profile**

Lyman (1980 population, 551) was incorporated in 1922. It has a village form of government with a Board of Directors composed of five members. The Chairman has held his position for 3 years, and other Board members have been on the Board of Directors from 4 to 12 years. Board members spend an average of 20 hours a month on village business, in addition to the bimonthly Board meetings. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in Lyman.

The Village employs five persons on a full-time basis, three persons parttime, and has three summer employees. Employees include three clerks, two utility workers, and two police officers. Salaries range from \$5.35 an hour for the two part-time clerks to \$1,248 a month for the utility supervisor. Total actual expenses for FY 1981-82 were \$242,363. The Village realizes revenue from its municipally owned electrical distribution system, which allows Lyman to have a larger budget than other villages of comparable size.

Lyman municipal buildings consist of a City Hall and a shop which are 55 years old, a library and a fire house which are 33 years old, a 53 year old water tower control room, and a 53 year old rental building. Sites without buildings owned by the Village include the sewer lagoon, the water tower site, two parks, a combined tennis/basketball court, an electrical substation, and a storage area. The Village has no plans to sell or retire any of its facilities. It plans to build restroom facilities at the large park this summer.

The Lyman water system is in good condition. The Village recently installed 4 blocks of new 8-inch mains and 600 feet of six-inch mains, as well as 2 new fire hydrants. The 60 year old water tower holds 100,000 gallons, and a new 500,000-gallon tower will be put in service as soon as it is inspected. The sewer system is in fair condition. Studies are complete for a new sewer lagoon using an evaporation system. Construction will begin in the near future. Lyman owns the electrical distribution system, which was updated 1 year ago. Western Area Power Administration supplies the power. United Telephone supplies telephone service; Kansas/Nebraska Energy supplies natural gas; and a contractor picks up the garbage.

Lyman has one full-time and one part-time police officer. They are dispatched by the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office in Gering and by the village clerk. The officers have a small office in the City Hall and a garage for the police car. Lyman experiences very little crime (vandalism at most).

The Lyman Volunteer Fire Department has 21 members and serves a combined rural and village district. Firemen receive 4 hours of training a month. In addition to State Fire Marshal inspections, the Department conducts a fire prevention week. The Village's fire hydrant system receives water from the Village's 4, 6, and 8-inch mains, which have 50 pounds per square inch of water pressure. Water comes from the 100,000 gallon water tower. Lyman's 17 persons with emergency medical training and one ambulance provide rescue service.

The village fire department owns one 500 gallon pumper/tanker in fair-to-good condition. The rural fire department owns a 500 gallon pumper/tanker in good condition, a 1,100-gallon tanker in fair condition, and a 4-wheel drive "quick attack" unit. Other vehicles include a van with extrication equipment in good

condition, and an ambulance in excellent condition manned by the 17 residents with emergency medical training. The Village fire insurance rating is eight.

Lyman's recreation facilities include two parks, a tennis court with basketball backboards, picnic tables, and playground equipment. Lyman has no parks and recreation department, although it appropriates \$1,000 of its general fund for maintaining and improving recreation facilities.

The high school gymnasium, weight room, football, and baseball fields are available to the public with advance permission. The Booster Club organizes a Little League program which uses the baseball field on a regular basis.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Lyman.

#### **8.6      Village of McGrew, Nebraska: Community Profile**

McGrew (1980 population, 110) was incorporated in the late 1800s with a Village form of government. The Village has a five-member Board of Directors. The Chairman has held that position for 1 year, and the other Council members have served an average of 6 years. Board members spend approximately 4 hours a month on village business, including monthly Board meetings. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in McGrew.

McGrew employs a part-time village clerk and two part-time maintenance men during the summer. The Village's operating costs during FY 1982-83 were \$13,000. McGrew owns its fire house, a park, two fire wells, and two vacant lots. It is installing a new sewer system for \$240,000 financed mainly with federal government grants. The system should be ready in the fall of 1984.

McGrew's houses have individual wells. Electricity comes from the Town of Minatare. Electricity is provided by Nebraska Public Power. The village has no natural gas. Telephone service is only fair. McGrew contracts garbage collection privately.

McGrew has no police officers, facilities, or equipment. The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office and the Nebraska State Highway Patrol provide law enforcement services. The village has almost no crime.

McGrew has a volunteer fire department with 15 members. Firemen receive 20 hours of state training a year. The Village does not have a fire hydrant system, but it does have one fire well.

The fire house is 50-years old, in good condition, and will hold four trucks. The department has three pieces of equipment, two pumper/tankers with a 1,000-gallon water capacity (both in good condition), and a "quick attack" unit in fair condition. The Village has a fire insurance rating of nine. Minatare provides ambulance service for McGrew.

McGrew's recreation facilities include a park, picnic tables, and barbecue grills. McGrew has no parks and recreation department, although it appropriates \$400 a year from the general fund to maintain its recreation facilities.

Programming and supervision are provided on a volunteer basis for volleyball, basketball, and exercise classes. Indoor school facilities are available for these programs. In addition, the school track and playground equipment are open to the public.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in McGrew.

#### **8.7      Village of Melbeta, Nebraska: Community Profile**

Melbeta (1980 population, 151) was incorporated in 1914. It has a village form of government with a five-member Board of Directors. The Chairman has served on the Board for 15 years, as have most of the other Board members. They spend an average of 10 hours a month on village business, in addition to Board meetings once a month. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in Melbeta.

Melbeta has no employees. The total current fiscal year budget is \$20,000, and operating costs are \$18,000. The Village owns one building (the fire house), a park with a tennis court and basketball hoops, a playground, and sewer lagoons. Melbeta has no plans to buy, sell, or construct any new capital facilities.

Houses in Melbeta have individual wells, and the Fire Department has four fire wells, which are in good condition. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required the Village to build a new sewer lagoon twice as large as needed, which causes the lagoon not to operate properly. Electric and garbage service are good, and telephone service only fair. The village has no available natural gas.

Melbeta has no police officers, facilities, or equipment. The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office and the Nebraska State Highway Patrol handle all law enforcement. Melbeta has no crime prevention programs, and virtually no crime except for occasional vandalism.

The Melbeta Volunteer Fire Department has 34 members. They receive 10 hours of training a year. Melbeta also covers a rural fire district 10 miles long and 7 miles wide. The Village does not have a fire hydrant system, but the Fire Department has 4 fire wells which pump 500 gallons a minute. The fire house was built in 1954 and is in good condition. It will hold two vehicles and has a meeting room and a kitchen. The Village has a fire insurance rating of nine. Equipment consists of a 500-gallon pumper/tanker and a "quick attack" vehicle both in fair condition. Melbeta has no ambulance service or persons with emergency medical training. Minatare provides emergency medical services.

Melbeta's recreation facilities include a park, a tennis court with basketball backboards, and playground facilities. The Village has no parks and recreation department or formal recreation budget. School facilities are available to the public on a year-round basis. A men's basketball league sponsored by the YMCA currently uses the gymnasium on a regular basis. The YMCA is the only other provider of recreation facilities in Melbeta.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Melbeta.

#### **8.8      City of Minatare, Nebraska: Community Profile**

Minatare (1980 population, 969) was incorporated in 1900 and has a mayor-council form of government. The Mayor has been in office for two and one-half years, and the Council members have served between 6 months and 12 years. The Mayor spends about 30 hours per week and Council members about 5 hours per week on city business. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in Minatare.

Minatare has five full-time and three part-time employees, including two city clerks, two police officers, a street superintendent, a librarian, a parks manager, and an animal warden. Salaries range from \$3.35 an hour for the Parks Manager to \$1,177 a month for the Chief of Police. Total budgeted expenses for FY 1982-83 were \$289,190.

Minatare has four municipal buildings. The City Hall is over 70-years old and in good condition. The library is also over 70-years old and in fair condition. The city shop is over 35-years old and in fair condition. The fire house is in good condition. Minatare has two municipal parks, one of which is the site of the City water tower, a sewer lagoon, and ten lots at scattered sites. The lots are for sale, but state requirements on land sales introduce a 90-day delay, making sales more difficult. No new construction plans exist.

Minatare's water and sewer systems are in fair condition. The aging water mains are too small for the Minatare's needs. The mains are 4 and 6 inches in size, though the State requires them to be 8 inches. The water tower holds 55,000 gallons, and the City fully utilizes its capacity. The sewer lines have a problem with infiltration/inflow which overloads the cistern pumps. Electric, gas, and telephone services are provided by private companies. Garbage collection service is excellent.

The Minatare Police Department has two sworn officers who are dispatched through the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office in Gering. The officers have a small office in the City Hall. The County provides jail facilities in Gering. The City police car is being replaced this year with a new, fully equipped car. The Department has no crime prevention programs. Highway 26 runs through the edge of town, and Minatare experiences some traffic violations.

The Minatare Volunteer Fire Department has 24 members. It combines a city and a rural department. They share firemen and the fire house, but have separate boards and funding. Firemen receive 20 hours of training a year through the State Fire Marshal. That office also conducts fire prevention programs in the city.

The fire house is over 50-years old and in good condition. It will hold seven vehicles and has a meeting room and a storeroom. The City has a hydrant system served by the 55,000-gallon water tower. The 6-inch water mains have 30 pounds per square inch of pressure. The City has a fire insurance rating of seven.

The City Fire Department has one 750 gallon pumper/tanker in good condition. The Rural Department has a 600-gallon pumper/tanker in fair condition, a 1,200 gallon tanker, and a 4-wheel drive "quick attack" unit. The departments have two rescue ambulances in good condition.

Minatare's outdoor recreation facilities include three parks, two softball fields, a tennis court, a volleyball court with basketball backstops, horseshoe pits, and playground equipment. One park contains a shelter which provides space for indoor activities.

The City has no parks and recreation department, although it appropriates approximately \$600 a year for recreation programming. Support for the Little League baseball program is provided on a volunteer basis. The high school facilities, available to the public, include a football field with a track and baseball diamond.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Minatare.

#### **8.9      City of Mitchell, Nebraska: Community Profile**

The City of Mitchell (1980 population, 1,959) was incorporated in 1902 and has a mayor-council form of government with four Council members. The Mayor and Council members have all served an average of less than 1 year. On the average, the Mayor spends 80 hours a month on town business, and the Council members spend 50 to 60 hours each. The Council meets once a month. Table 8.4-1 provides data on public services in Mitchell.

Mitchell has six government departments. The largest is the Light and Water Department, which has five full-time employees and one part-time employee. Salaries range from \$1,222 for linemen to \$1,945 for the utility superintendent. The Mitchell Police Department employs two patrolmen in addition to the Chief and his deputy. Salaries range from \$1,050 to \$1,400 per month. The General Administration Department and the Garbage Department have two employees each; the Road Department and Cemetery Department have one employee each. Mitchell's operating expenses for FY 1982-83 were \$290,600.

Mitchell owns a number of buildings, including the City Hall, the fire house, two storage and maintenance buildings, three houses, three airport buildings, two electrical substations, and four pump houses. Most of the buildings are over 50-years old, except for the fire house, which is 10-years old. The Town also owns a number of acres of land with various uses, including an airport, a cemetery, two sewer lagoons, a dump, four wells, and two parks, one of which has a swimming pool. Construction plans include a recreation facility and baseball diamonds at some future time.

Public utilities appear to be adequate. Mitchell has 4 wells and a water tower with a 200,000 gallon capacity. A new sewer lagoon is only 8 months old. The City has a municipal electrical distribution system. A municipal department picks up garbage. Mitchell's population can experience growth without taxing the City's public utilities.

Mitchell has four police officers, including the Chief. They are dispatched through the Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Office in Gering. Police facilities

include a small office in the City Hall building. The city has no jail, and uses the county jail in Gering. Officers share a police car, and a second car is on order. Mitchell has no crime prevention program, but the chief speaks to groups on request. Since the city has a number of retail stores, burglaries are a problem. Some transient population also increases the crime level.

The Fire Department has 37 volunteer members. They receive an average of 55 hours of training a year. The joint rural and town departments have the same members. The rural district covers 230,000 acres, and is one of the largest in Nebraska. Most fires are rural grass fires.

The fire station, built in 1958, holds four vehicles and is in good condition. It is attached to the City Hall. A 1977 addition to the fire house is in excellent condition and will hold eight vehicles. The Department has no fire prevention programs.

The fire hydrant system is fed by a 200,000-gallon water tower. The hydrant system was updated in 1982, and is fed by 4, 6, and 8-inch mains. Water pressure at the hydrants is 50 pounds per square inch. Mitchell's fire insurance rating is seven.

The combined departments have two pumper/tankers in good to excellent condition, a 1,200-gallon tanker in excellent condition, and another 1,000-gallon tanker in poor condition. There are also four "quick attack" units in fair to good condition. Other vehicles include a car for the Fire Chief which is fully equipped with radios and some rescue equipment, a rescue ambulance in excellent condition and a back-up rescue ambulance in fair condition.

Mitchell's outdoor recreation facilities include two parks, three tennis courts, a swimming pool, a basketball court, a baseball diamond, picnic tables, barbecue pits, and playground equipment. A shelter provides space for indoor activities.

The City has no parks and recreation department, although it appropriates funds from the general budget to maintain, staff, and improve recreation facilities. Programming and supervision are provided by the City and volunteer organizations. School recreation facilities are not regularly open to the public; they are available on a limited basis with advance permission.

The Scotts Bluff County fairgrounds are located in Mitchell. These facilities include several large display buildings, two baseball diamonds, and a rodeo arena with a grandstand. Commercial recreation facilities include a theater, a bowling alley, a pool hall, and a video arcade.

Only a community profile is provided here, because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Mitchell.

#### **8.10 Village of Morrill, Nebraska: Community Profile**

The Village of Morrill (1980 population, 109) has a board of directors form of government. The Chairman of the Board of Directors has been a Board member for 12 years and Chairman for 1 year. The four other Board members have served an average of 3 years each. Members spend approximately 5 hours a week on village business in addition to the monthly Board meeting. Table 8.4-1 provides an inventory of public services in Morrill.

Morrill has 14 full-time employees, three part-time employees, and four summer employees for the swimming pool. Five persons work on the Village's utility systems, especially on electrical systems. There are three people responsible for streets and garbage collection, three maintain the golf course, and two people work in the Clerk Treasurer's office. There are two policemen, a librarian, a park attendant, and a dump attendant. Salaries for full-time employees range from \$3.75 an hour for the librarian to \$1,600 per month for the utility superintendent. The Village's total expenses for FY 1982-83 were \$219,559.

The Village owns several buildings, including the Village office and garage, the fire house, the library, a swimming/pool bath house, a golf club, and a utilities office. All are in good-to-excellent condition. The Village owns outdoor facilities as well, such as a nine-hole golf course, a park, two dump sites, and a sewer lagoon. Morrill's four wells are located on easements. The Village has no plans to sell any existing facilities or to buy or construct any new facilities.

Utility systems in Morrill vary in quality. The water system has just been updated with new mains and new valves. One of the four wells is only 2 years old. The 250,000-gallon water tower is 60-years old and in good condition. The sewer system uses all of its original lines, and is in fair condition. Morrill owns the electrical distribution system. It generates revenue for the Village which cover losses from other services. The Village's electrical distribution system was upgraded 4 years ago; larger transformers were put in, and the industrial and commercial load was revamped. Twenty miles of line is in fair condition. United Telephone Company services are considered to be fair. Natural gas is supplied by Kansas/Nebraska Energy. Garbage collection is a municipal service.

Morrill is likely to experience some population increases in the next few years, with a concomitant increase in the demand for city services. The Chicago-Northwestern Railroad is building a spur line into Morrill in order to use the Union Pacific Railroad lines, which pass through Morrill, for Wyoming coal trains. The railroad will locate a new rail car repair facility near Morrill with crew change and repair facilities and fuel storage. Construction will begin in 3 to 4 years. No accurate estimate of the potential population increase is available.

Morrill is preparing for future growth by expanding its utilities. Enrollments have dropped in the last few years, and the new grade school has excess student capacity. The Mayor estimates that the village can presently absorb 100 new homes.

Morrill has two police officers, one full time and one part time. The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Department provides radio dispatch. The officers have a 1982 police car, but the Village owns no police office or jail. No crime prevention programs exist in Morrill. The crime rate is very low, consisting mainly of petty thefts and vandalism.

The Morrill Volunteer Fire Department, a combined village and rural department, has 30 members. They share the same fire house and firemen. The fire-fighting equipment is separately owned, but can be used for either rural or village fires. The only exception is the pumper, which cannot leave the Village. The rural fire district is 35 miles long and 10 miles wide.

The fire house was built in 1970 and is in excellent condition. It has capacity for 12 firefighting vehicles, and presently stores 8.

The Department has no fire prevention programs. County inspectors enforce building codes, and the deputy fire marshall checks businesses for fire safety and hazards. Firemen receive 8 hours of training a month. The Village's fire hydrant system is served by a 250,000 gallon water tower. The mains to the hydrants vary in size from 4 to 6 inches. The hydrants have 40 to 45 pounds per square inch of water pressure.

The Village's pumper/tanker holds 500 gallons of water and is in good condition. The rural fire department owns the rest of the equipment, which includes a 500-gallon pumper/tanker and a 1,500-gallon tanker, both in excellent condition, and a 1,000-gallon tanker in fair condition. Other equipment includes a four-wheel drive "quick attack" unit and a 4-wheel drive equipment carrier in excellent condition, a rescue ambulance in good condition, and a station wagon in excellent condition. A new 4-wheel drive "quick attack" unit will be ready in 1 month.

Morrill's outdoor recreation facilities include a park, a golf course, a swimming pool, a skating pond, a tennis court, a basketball court, and a baseball diamond.

The Village has no parks and recreation department, although it does appropriate a portion of the general fund for staffing and maintaining existing facilities.

School district facilities are open to the public on a year-round basis. They include an all-weather track, a weight room, and an indoor basketball court. Recreational programming consists of Little League baseball, which is organized and supervised on a volunteer basis.

Only a community profile is provided here because no project-related population immigration or other impacts are expected in Morrill.

#### **8.11 Village of Terrytown, Nebraska: Community Profile**

Terrytown (1980 population, 727) was incorporated in 1949. It has a village form of government with a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has 5 members who have served between 1 and 12 years. Board members spend no time on village business outside of monthly Board meetings. Table 8.4-1 provides information on public services in Terrytown.

The Village employs five persons, a city clerk, a bookkeeper, and two full-time and one part-time maintenance men. Salaries range from \$3.35 an hour to \$8.00 an hour. Total actual Village expenditures in FY 1981-82 were \$190,412.

Terrytown is a bedroom community for Scottsbluff and Gering. The Terry Carpenter Corporation owns most of the land in the village except for a large public housing project and one private residence. The Village office is located in a corporation building, and its four wells and pumping stations, sewage plant, and four lift stations for sewage are located on corporate land. The Village of Terrytown owns the streets.



Terrytown's utilities all provide good service. The Village also provides municipal services to Belleview; Highland I, II, and III; Schneider's Trailer Court; Valley Hi Trailer Court, and Monument I and II. Four wells supply the village water storage tank, which has a 750,000-gallon capacity. The sewer plant operates at capacity. The Village has an agreement with Scottsbluff to feed its sewage into Scottsbluff's system. Construction of the connecting line will occur in the fall of 1983, with completion by the spring of 1984. Terrytown also has municipal garbage collection.

Nebraska Public Power provides electricity to Terrytown; United Telephone provides telephone service; and Kansas/Nebraska Energy provides natural gas.

Terrytown does not have any police personnel. The Scotts Bluff County Sheriff's Department from Gering covers the village. Minor crime problems are created by traffic, juveniles, and dogs.

Terrytown has no fire department. The rural Scotts Bluff and Gering departments fight fires in the village, in exchange for annual donations from the corporation. The village has a fire hydrant system serving the trailer communities. The water mains to the hydrants are 6 and 8 inches in size. Terrytown has a fire insurance rating of seven.

Terrytown has no parks and recreation department, formal recreation budget, activities programming, or recreation facilities. It contains no schools or churches, so it lacks a gymnasium or basketball and volleyball courts. The village has one bowling alley.

Only a community profile is provided here because no population immigration or other impacts are expected in Terrytown.

## **8.12      Other Jurisdictions - Education**

### **8.12.1    Scotts Bluff County Education System**

#### **8.12.1.1 Baseline Description**

There are 18 school districts in Scotts Bluff County, Nebraska (Figure 8.12.1-1). There are six classes of districts in Nebraska as defined by the Nebraska Department of Education:

- o    "Class I includes any school district that maintains only elementary grades under the direction of a single school board;
- o    Class II includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 1,000 inhabitants or less that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board.
- o    Class III includes any school district embracing territory having a population of more than 1,000 and less than 100,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;

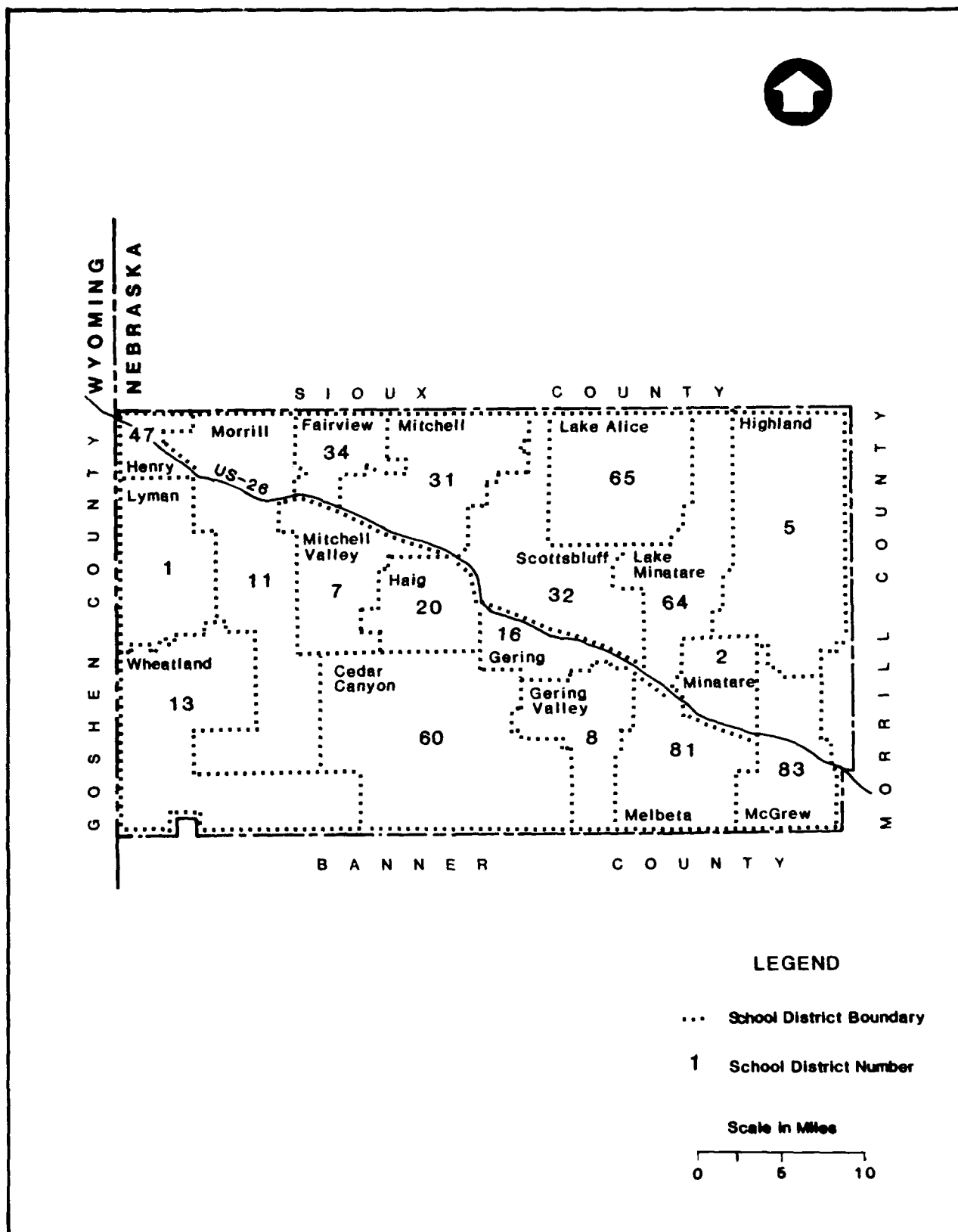


FIGURE 8.12.1-1 SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY

- o Class IV includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 100,000 or more and less than 200,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board;
- o Class V includes any school district embracing territory having a population of 200,000 or more that maintains both elementary grades and high school grades under the direction of a single school board; and
- o Class VI includes any school district that maintains only a high school."

Source: Statistics and Facts, 1983, Nebraska Department of Education, Lincoln.

Scotts Bluff County has 11 Class I schools, 1 Class II school, and 6 Class III schools.

#### 8.12.1.1.1 Students

Ten years of fall enrollments for grade categories of K-6, grades 7-8, and grades 9-12 for Scotts Bluff County public schools are shown in Table 8.12.1-1. Kindergarten is not mandatory in Nebraska, but is widely offered.

Table 8.12.1-1

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL FALL ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE CATEGORY FOR SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY (1973-1982)

<u>Grade Category</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
K-6	4,691	4,566	4,666	4,513	4,387	4,357	4,260	4,286	4,136	4,158
7-8	1,426	1,422	1,420	1,500	1,425	1,337	1,218	1,166	1,199	1,162
9-12	2,615	2,580	2,616	2,755	2,660	2,691	2,605	2,541	2,397	2,219
TOTAL:	8,732	8,568	8,702	8,768	8,472	8,385	8,083	7,993	7,732	7,539

Source: Nebraska State Department Reports from County Superintendent of Schools, 1973-74 through 1982-83.

From fall 1973 to fall 1982 the following changes occurred: an 11.4-percent decrease for elementary, an 18.5 percent decrease for junior high, a 15.1 percent decrease for high school, and a 13.7-percent decrease overall. This compares with a 5-year overall decrease of 11.0 percent and a 1-year overall decrease of 2.5 percent. This declining enrollment pattern is explained by the declining birth rate and smaller family sizes. Also, the trends in farming and ranching operations have changed from using "hired hands" to using modern machinery. Therefore, fewer hired hands and their families have been coming to the county.

#### 8.12.1.1.2 Staffing

The numbers of full-time equivalent classroom teachers and the pupil-to-teacher ratios are given in Table 8.12.1-2.

The pupil-to-teacher ratios do not include ungraded special enrollments. In the 4 years, the highest pupil-to-teacher ratio was in 1981 at 17.4 (which was slightly more than the rounded 17.4 in 1980). The lowest pupil-to-teacher ratio was in 1982 due to a modest teacher increase and a slight enrollment decrease.

The fall 1982 salary schedule for teachers in Scottsbluff and Gering is provided in Table 8.12.1-3.

The 1982 teacher salaries ranged from \$12,625 to \$24,145 at Scottsbluff and \$12,500 to \$26,156 for Gering. The other teacher salary ranges in the remaining Scotts Bluff districts were lower than those at either Scottsbluff or Gering.

#### 8.12.1.1.3 Services

##### 8.12.1.1.3.1 Special Education Programs

In Scotts Bluff County there were a total of 786 children diagnosed as handicapped in 1982. Of these 273 had a specific learning disability, 307 had speech handicaps, 101 were diagnosed as educable mentally handicapped, and the remainder had other handicaps. These students received at least three hours or more of special education instruction. The 1977 federal legislation (P.L. 94-142) required a special education student to be enrolled in the least restrictive environment, so attempts have been made to mainstream the students into regular classrooms as much as possible.

##### 8.12.1.1.3.2 Gifted Programs

Gifted-student programs are offered in some of the districts in Scotts Bluff County. Enrichment programs are encouraged in Nebraska, but are a function of the school district and interest of the teachers.

##### 8.12.1.1.3.3 Nonpublic Education

In 1982 there were three private schools in Scotts Bluff County. The following is a list of the schools, the grades taught, and the 1982 fall enrollments:

- o St. Agnes Academy (K-6) - 174 students;
- o Valley View Seven Day Adventist Elementary (1-8) - 27 students;  
and
- o Berean Fundamental (K-8) - 55 students (and 17 prekindergarten students).

Source: Nebraska Department of Education, Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Public Schools, 1982-1983.

Table 8.12.1-2

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT CLASSROOM TEACHERS AND  
PUPIL-TO-TEACHER RATIOS  
SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY  
(1979-80 THROUGH 1982-83)

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Teachers (FTE)	503.0	458.6	443.6	449.9
Pupil-to-Teacher Ratio <sup>1</sup>	16.1	17.4	17.4	16.8

Note: 1 Ratios expressed as 16.1 rather than 16.1:1.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education Statistics and Facts about  
Nebraska Schools Reports from County Superintendents: 1979-80  
through 1982-83.

Table 8.12.1-3

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM  
1982 TEACHER SALARIES BY PREPARATION LEVEL FOR  
SCOTTSBLUFF AND GERING

<u>Preparation Level</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>	<u>Maximum Salary</u>
<b>Scottsbluff</b>		
BA units	\$12,625	\$15,844
BA+ 9 units	13,193	16,949
BA+ 18 units	13,761	18,053
BA+ 27 units	14,329	19,158
MA	14,897	20,799
MA+ 9 units	15,465	21,367
MA+ 18 units	16,033	22,472
MA+ 27 units	16,601	23,040
MA+ 36 units	17,170	24,145
<b>Gering</b>		
BA	\$12,500	\$15,156
BA+ 9 units	13,063	15,719
BA+ 18 units	13,625	16,813
BA+ 27 units	14,188	18,438
BA+ 36 units	14,469	18,719
MA	14,750	20,594
MA+ 9 units	15,313	21,156
MA+ 18 units	15,875	22,250
MA+ 27 units	16,438	23,344
MA+ 36 units	17,000	23,906
Doctorate	19,250	26,156

Sources: "Salary Schedules and Fringe Benefits," 1982 Nebraska State Education  
Association.

#### 8.12.1.1.4 Facilities

The facilities in Scotts Bluff County range from being in excellent condition to good condition. In most districts there is a maintenance schedule and repairs are made on a routine basis. There are approximately 783,330 total square feet of classrooms numbering around 470 in the Scotts Bluff County public schools. Appendix D provides capacity and condition information on several Scotts Bluff County schools. There are 269 school buses in Scotts Bluff County, and they are maintained routinely and replaced periodically.

#### 8.12.1.1.5 Post-Secondary Education

The post-secondary educational opportunities in Scotts Bluff County are as follows: the University of Nebraska offers nondegree programs at the learning center, Panhandle Station, in Scottsbluff. Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska, is the closest state college. Chadron is in the northwest corner of Nebraska on U.S. Highways 20 and 385, approximately 100 miles from Scottsbluff. Chadron State College is a state-supported college granting graduate and undergraduate degrees. There are approximately 2,000 students and, in addition to preprofessional training, the following degrees are offered: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science in Education, Master of Arts, and Master of Science in Education.

Nebraska Western College is the Scottsbluff campus of Western Technical Community College. The college offers a comprehensive list of programs which includes academic and technical courses.

There are several vocational schools in Scottsbluff. Hollywood Beauty College is a Redken School of Cosmetology offering both a basic cosmetology course and a student instructor course. The Panhandle Mental Health Center Clinical Pastoral Education Program offers basic clinical pastoral education. The ministry emphasizes working with community agencies, welfare problems, the courts, and minority groups. The West Nebraska General Hospital School of Nursing is a 3-year program leading to a degree in nursing. The West Nebraska General Hospital School of Radiologic Technology offers a 2-year program in radiologic technology. The Platte Valley Bible College provides training for a leadership ministry for the Church of Christ. In Scottsbluff there is Dad's Art Shop for the visual arts, which on occasion offers workshops and shows.

In Gering, Nebraska, there is the A-ccredited B-eauty C-ollege which offers courses designed to prepare students for state licensing as cosmetologists and cosmetology instructors.

#### 8.12.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 8.12.1.2.1 Students

Future trends in student enrollment were projected for the Scotts Bluff County school system by a mean survival ratio method used by the Nebraska Department of Education. This model projects enrollment over a 10-year period by adding the average change from grade to grade by increments to the last enrollment in the initial grade. These projections compared favorably to the age cohort survival population projections. Table 8.12.1-4 displays the projected enrollments for the Scotts Bluff County schools.

Table 8.12.1-4

TEN YEARS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL  
FALL ENROLLMENT BASELINE PROJECTIONS  
BY GRADE CATEGORY  
FOR SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
(1983-1992)

Grade Category	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
K-6										
(1982 Actual=4,158)	4,127	4,159	4,265	4,569	4,714	5,015	5,254	5,545	5,922	6,221
7-8										
(1982 Actual=1,162)	1,191	1,229	1,262	1,184	1,219	1,230	1,240	1,254	1,246	1,399
9-12										
(1982 Actual=2,219)	2,117	2,075	2,118	2,187	2,251	2,232	2,296	2,248	2,274	2,276
TOTAL:										
(1982 Actual=7,539)	7,435	7,463	7,645	7,940	8,184	8,477	8,790	9,047	9,442	9,896

Source: Nebraska Department of Education 1983 Projection Model, mean survival ratio method.

These projections show an 8.6-percent increase in 1987 from 1982 (base year), and a 31.3-percent increase in 1992. Broken down by grade category, a 13.4 percent increase is projected for elementary enrollments, a 4.9-percent increase is projected for junior high students, and a 1.4-percent 5-year increase is projected for high school students in 1987. However, in 1992, these projections shift to a 49.6-percent increase at the elementary level, a 20.4 percent increase at the junior high level, and a 2.6-percent increase at the high school level. These projections show marked enrollment increases for elementary students, moderate increases for junior high students, and a stable enrollment pattern for high school students.

#### 8.12.1.2.2 Staffing

Future trends in FTE teachers are projected based upon the existing conditions in Scotts Bluff County (pupil-to-FTE teacher ratios). The noncertified teacher counts were not available, but it is important to note the vital function of the support staff for the operation of the school. Presumably as enrollments increase, a certain number of additional support staff are required at fixed intervals of increased enrollments. For example, 1 bus driver may be required for less than 60 students but 2 will be needed once the capacity of the bus is reached or change of bus routing patterns is required.

Table 8.12.1-5 shows the FTE teacher projections for the Scotts Bluff County school system.

This projection shows an increase in the number of FTE teachers of 146.4 at the end of 10 years. Most of the needed teachers would be at the elementary level.

#### 8.12.1.2.3 Educational Services

Because of the special nature of the educational services (special education, gifted programs, and nonpublic education) no baseline projections were made. It is anticipated that the special programs will continue to expand. Also, it is expected that curricula will be affected by results of the report by President Reagan's Task Force on Education, but not necessarily requiring more staff.

#### 8.12.1.2.4 Facilities

Presently there are approximately 470 classrooms in the Scotts Bluff County school system. Applying an "unofficial standard" of a maximum of 25 students per classroom, there is an estimated room for 11,750 students. This is in excess of the peak year of projected enrollment. However, this is not to say that special programs or certain buildings will not suffer crowded conditions.

Some of the buildings in the Scotts Bluff County school system are in need of repair and maintenance. It is expected that these repair and maintenance needs will be met on a routine basis.

It is also expected that Scotts Bluff County will continue to maintain the school buses at past maintenance levels. The buses are periodically replaced when appropriate, and this practice will likely continue.



Table 8.12.1-5

TEN YEARS OF STAFF BASELINE PROJECTIONS  
BY FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT TEACHERS  
SCOTTSSBLUFF COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
(1983-1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Teachers (FTE)										
(1982 actual=449.9)	442.6	444.2	455.1	472.6	487.1	504.6	523.2	541.5	562.0	589.0

Source: Table 8.12.1-4 and Nebraska Department of Education, "Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Schools 1982-1983."

#### 8.12.1.2.5 Post-Secondary Education

Because the many post-secondary education opportunities are of such a diverse nature, future trends are not projected in Scotts Bluff County.

#### 8.12.1.3 Project Impacts

##### 8.12.1.3.1 Students

In Scotts Bluff County, 24 impact enrollments are projected for 1986 and 1987, 79 impact enrollments are projected for 1988 and 56 impact enrollments are projected for 1989. Therefore, there will be negligible projected enrollment increases as a result of the project.

##### 8.12.1.3.2 Staffing

There will be a minimal increased workload as a result of the project.

##### 8.12.1.3.3 Educational Services

There will be a negligible impact in the areas of special education, gifted programs, and nonpublic education as a result of the project impacts.

##### 8.12.1.3.4 Facilities

There will be a negligible impact in the area of facilities and school buses as a result of the project.

##### 8.12.1.3.5 Post-Secondary Education

There will be a negligible impact in the areas of post-secondary education as a result of the project.

#### 8.12.1.4 Mitigative Measures

Because there are negligible impacts from the project for Scotts Bluff, no mitigative measures should be required.

### 8.13 Special Districts - Fire Protection

Rural Scotts Bluff County receives fire protection services from eight fire districts. Several of these rural fire districts share volunteers, equipment, and facilities with various small communities. These fire districts, other than Scottsbluff and Gering, are discussed in Sections 8.4 through 8.11.

#### 8.13.1 Scottsbluff Rural Fire Department

##### 8.13.1.1 Baseline Description

The Scottsbluff Rural Fire Department provides fire protection services to the area primarily west and north-northeast of Scottsbluff and also to parts of southern Sioux County. The District has 26 volunteers who are shared with the Scottsbluff City Fire Department. The District has two pumpers and a tanker which are garaged in an older building behind the Scottsbluff Municipal

Building. The District contracts with the City Fire Department to house and maintain this equipment. The rural area around Scottsbluff has a fire insurance rating of eight.

#### 8.13.1.2 Projected Baseline

Under baseline conditions, the population of the area served by the Scottsbluff Rural Fire District is projected to remain stable. Consequently, no increase in volunteers, vehicles, or facilities is projected for the District.

#### 8.13.1.3 Project Impacts

With the project, the population of Scottsbluff will, as under baseline, remain stable through 1992. There are projected to be very small Project-related population increases not exceeding 233 persons or 1.6 percent between 1986 and 1989. Because of their small size, these increases will not require any changes to the manpower, vehicles or facilities of the Scottsbluff Fire Department.

#### 8.13.1.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures should be needed because of the low level of impact.

### 8.13.2 Gering Volunteer Fire Department

#### 8.13.2.1 Baseline Description

The Gering City Fire Department and the Gering Rural Fire District share the same volunteers and fire station and are collectively referred to as the Gering Volunteer Fire Department. These two agencies have a full-time, paid Fire Chief and 53 volunteer firefighters. Equipment consist of three pumpers, two tankers, a "quick attack" unit, two ambulances, and five other vehicles used primarily for transporting equipment and personnel. Some of these vehicles are used primarily for transporting equipment and personnel. Some vehicles are owned by the City and the remainder are owned by the Rural District. All equipment is housed at the fire station in Gering. This building was constructed in 1966 and contains 6,240 square feet. The building and most of the equipment are in good condition, though one tanker, one pumper, and one of the transport vehicles date from the early 1950s. The Department is hoping to replace the older pumper in the near future.

The area around Gering has a fire insurance rating of eight.

#### 8.13.2.2 Projected Baseline

Population projections for Gering and Scotts Bluff County indicate that the population of the area served by the Gering Volunteer Fire Department will increase gradually between 1983 and 1992 from about 9,000 persons to approximately 11,700. Using current service ratios (5.96 volunteers per 1,000 population, 1.43 firefighting vehicles per 1,000 population, and 480 square feet per vehicle) as a standard, this population increase would require an additional 16 volunteers, four additional vehicles, and an additional 1,440 square feet of station space. (Existing space can house one additional firefighting vehicle.)

There are no direct salary costs associated with the additional volunteers, but the additional trucks at \$90,000 each for pumpers and \$20,000 for other vehicles could cost \$150,000 and the station space, at \$25 per square feet for a metal building, would cost \$36,000. Thus, through 1992, the Gering Volunteer Fire Department would incur additional costs totaling \$186,000 over 1983 levels.

#### 8.13.2.3 Project Impacts

With the project, the population of the area served by the Gering Volunteer Fire District will experience project-related population increases not exceeding 117 persons or 1.2 percent over Baseline between 1986 and 1989. Due to their small size, these increases will require no changes in the volunteers, vehicles or space needs of the Gering Volunteer Fire Department.

#### 8.13.2.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures should be needed because of the minor impacts projected.

### 8.13.3 Scotts Bluff County Airport Fire Department

#### 8.13.3.1 Baseline Description

A separate Fire Department serves the Scotts Bluff County Airport. This Department has a crash-rescue truck with special equipment for fighting airport fires and a station wagon used for carrying other equipment. The Department has a manpower level of 22. Scotts Bluff County Airport has a fire insurance rating of eight.

#### 8.13.3.2 Projected Baseline

The Scotts Bluff County Airport Fire Department is not projected to require any additional volunteers, vehicles, or facilities under projected baseline through 1992.

#### 8.13.3.3 Project Impacts

The project is not estimated to have any impact on the firefighting capabilities the Scotts Bluff County Airport Fire Department. Consequently, the Airport Fire Department is not subject to further analysis.

#### 8.13.3.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures should be needed because of the minor impacts projected.

## **8.14      Scotts Bluff County**

### **8.14.1    Human Services**

#### **8.14.1.1 Baseline Description**

##### **8.14.1.1.1 Introduction**

Scotts Bluff County contains the largest concentration of population in the Nebraska Panhandle. The adjacent cities of Scottsbluff and Gering account for about 22,000 of the county's 38,000 population.

Surrounded by a sparsely populated agricultural region, Scottsbluff and Gering constitute the central location for human service agencies that extend service on a regional basis to much of the Panhandle. The Community Mental Health Center in Scottsbluff coordinates mental health service activities throughout the region. Administrative centers for mental retardation, aging, family planning, and domestic violence are located in Scottsbluff and Gering.

Scottsbluff and Gering are subject to problems and issues pertaining to an ethnic minority population that is relatively large by Nebraska standards. The ethnic minority concentration is 17 percent in Scottsbluff and Gering, compared to 10 percent in the rest of the Panhandle and 7 percent in all Nebraska. There is some difficulty establishing grass-roots support for human service programs that target out-group members.

##### **8.14.1.1.2 Inventory of Services**

The following human service agencies are located in Scotts Bluff County:

#### **American Red Cross**

Disaster, safety, and health training services.

#### **Panhandle Day Care Center**

Licensed day care, preschool, and transportation.

#### **Neighborhood Family Service Center**

Health services, drug/alcohol educational services.

#### **Family Planning Service**

Educational and medical services relating to childbirth.

#### **Mental Retardation Association (Region I)**

Developmental, social, and residential services.

#### **Housing Authority**

Subsidized low-income housing.

#### **Department of Public Welfare**

Income maintenance, social, and medical services.

#### **Aging Office of Western Nebraska**

Information, legal, food, home assistance, and respite care services.

**Domestic Violence Task Force**

Crisis line, transportation, medical, legal, financial, shelter, support, information, and outreach services.

**Panhandle Mental Health Center**

Emergency care, counseling and therapy, inpatient, transitional, and intermediate mental health services.

**Gering Multi-Purpose Senior Citizens Centers.****Panhandle Community Action Agency.****Senior Citizens Club.****Western Nebraska Veterans Home.****Bel Air Manor**

Rehabilitation and nursing care for aging and handicapped.

**Gra-Mar Manor**

Nursing care facility.

**Homestead Detoxification Program**

Nonmedical drug/alcohol detoxification.

**8.14.1.1.3 Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency**

The Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency is a member of the Association of Nebraska Community Action Agencies. This group meets at least six times yearly. Community Action Agencies throughout the state are funded by Community Service Block Grants through the State Department of Social Services and the staff are employees of that department. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) nutrition programs are funded through the State Department of Health. This Department provides training, monitoring, and general program oversight. Weatherization and home energy management programs are funded both through the Nebraska Energy Office and the Nebraska Department of Social Services. Each year Low Income Energy Assistance Program funds are granted by the Department of Social Services (formerly Welfare) for a period of 6 months to provide weatherization services to the program's recipients. Child and Family Development programs are all funded through the Region VII (Kansas City, Missouri) Office of Human Development, Administration for Children, Youth and Families. Nebraska Head Start programs meet four times a year to review federal and state policy, receive training, serve as an advocacy group for children, youth, and parenting programs, and call attention to concerns affecting Nebraska citizenry in this area.

The Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency was incorporated and organized to serve Scotts Bluff County and its surrounding area, including but not limited to the counties of Morrill, Deuel, Kimball, and Cheyenne, in developing, conducting, and administering a Community Action Program to 1) mobilize and utilize resources (public and private) in an attack on poverty; 2) provide services, assistance, and other activities of sufficient scope and size to give promise of progress toward elimination of poverty or causes of poverty through developing employment opportunities, and assisting in the development

of human resources; 3) develop, conduct, and administer maximum feasible participation of the low income community; and 4) effect a permanent increase in the capacity of individuals, groups, and communities to deal effectively with poverty.

Specific services provided at the Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency are: resources and referral; emergency goods and services; gardening and community food projects; advocacy for the poor; self-sufficiency; General Equivalent Degree high school equivalency classes; food and toy distribution programs; Women, Infant and Children program; Commodity Supplemental Food Program; housing and weatherization; Child and Family Development programs.

Health services for low income people without health insurance or other resources are currently inadequate. A major problem in the community is the lack of year-round employment opportunities for both male and female unskilled workers.

One important need within the agency is a source of funding responsive to local needs. Most of the agency's funding has been from state and federal grants, which have been very limited in recent years. Budget sources are summarized as of January 1983 in Table 8.14.1-1. Expenditures are equivalent to revenues.

The Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency is housed in converted industrial facilities in Gering. Staffing, equipment, and other budget items are determined primarily by the amount of the grant. Each funding source sets the amount of the grant award, and has specific guidelines regarding staffing and equipment purchases.

Small changes have occurred within the agency based on reduction of funds. The agency employs fewer outreach workers, and no longer has the Senior Opportunities and Services Program (Western Nebraska Office of Aging now coordinates senior programs). From September 1977 through August 1982, Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency operated a statewide Rural Home Repair Project which was funded at \$135,000 annually with an average staff of 5 throughout the state. The Child and Family Development programs have added two training programs: the Home Start Training Center serving Region VII Missouri, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, and the Nebraska Head Start Training & Technical Assistance, serving all Nebraska Head Start grantees. Beginning September 1, 1983, Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency will serve as grantee for a Runaway/Troubled Youth Program.

The clientele is discussed for the four major Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency programs. The Women, Infant and Children program served a total of 724 clients from predominantly low income individuals while the Commodity Supplemental Food Program served 492 clients from this same income category. Programs funded by the Community Service Block Grants provided aid to a total of 4,415 individuals. Of this, approximately 54 percent of the family units were white, 37 percent Hispanic, and 8.7 percent Native American.

Table 8.14.1-1

## NEBRASKA PANHANDLE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<u>Federal</u>	
Health & Human Services Department	\$681,655
Action Agency	5,000
Total Federal:	\$686,655
<u>State of Nebraska</u>	
Department of Public Welfare	\$125,000
Community Service Block Grant	
Department of Health	
Women, Infant and Children Program	\$ 70,063
Commodity Supplemental Food Program	18,392
Nebraska Energy Office	
Housing and Weatherization	229,682
Total State:	\$443,137
Local Contributions/Donations, etc. (including approximately \$1,500 Scotts Bluff/Gering Ministerial Association)	\$ 6,000
FUNDING TOTAL:	\$1,135,792

Source: Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency fiscal data.

The Child and Family Development programs served a total of 755 low-income persons. The programs served all ages, races, and sexes. Racial composition of the program participants was 48.9 percent white, 44 percent Hispanic, 4.6 percent Native American, 2.1 percent Black, and .04 percent other.

#### 8.14.1.1.4 Domestic Violence Task Force

The Scotts Bluff County Domestic Violence Task Force is one of 24 task forces in the state of Nebraska. The Task Force is supervised by the State Department of Social Services through its Domestic Violence Project.

The Task Force provides seven emergency services under state statute including:

- o A 24-hour phone line;
- o Transportation (recommended by law enforcement officials in crisis situations);
- o Access to medical services or first aid;
- o Access to emergency legal counseling and referral;



- o Crisis counseling and support;
- o Emergency financial aid; and
- o Shelter.

In addition to these mandated services, the Task Force is involved in the following activities:

- o Ongoing support groups for battered women;
- o Public speaking to a wide variety of community groups;
- o Cooperation/communication with other human service agencies;
- o Outreach to Sioux, Banner, and Morrill counties;
- o Fund raising to maintain staff and shelter;
- o Participation in state and national conferences;
- o Recruitment and training of new volunteers for the Task Force;
- o Long-range planning for improved facilities/staff/services; and
- o Initiation of a program for men who batter.

The Task Force provides assistance to six counties: Sioux, Morrill, Banner, Kimball, Cheyenne, and Scotts Bluff.

The program began in January 1979 with one part-time counselor who primarily responded to phone calls. Persons needing shelter were accommodated in motel rooms during that year. The shelter house was acquired in 1980, and the staff increased to three full-time personnel, including one housemother, one shelter manager, and one coordinator. The housemother position in that year was funded through VISTA and filled by a volunteer with that program. The two other positions were funded locally. Volunteers were at their highest numbers in 1980, about 30, because of the number of other VISTA volunteers who worked with the program.

The Task Force currently operates with four personnel, three of whom are salaried. The staff includes a full-time director, a full-time shelter manager, a part-time coordinator, and a full-time housemother. As of July 1, 1983, funding for the director's position is no longer available. That position is not formally a part of the organization. Volunteers will fill the position, where possible. The staff includes a number of volunteers, averaging about 15 to 20. The number of volunteers fluctuates because of the volunteers' other responsibilities and interests.

The major service change in the program's history was acquisition of a shelter house in 1980. Other changes significant to the program include increased recognition in the community by residents as well as by groups such as law enforcement agencies, who now consult program personnel for assistance in dealing with domestic violence problems.

The program increasingly receives its calls during the day; 72 percent of calls from January through March were received between 6:00 AM and, 6:00 PM. This change, which reflects an increasing awareness of the programs purpose and availability and more use of it for nonemergency, anticipated situations, requires full-time daytime staff. Volunteers tend to be available primarily in the evenings after working hours.

The primary need for the Task Force is to fill the director's position. This need is especially pronounced in light of the increasing number of daytime calls the agency is receiving. Currently, staff are underpaid. The program will have to rely on volunteers to fill the director's position. Volunteers are unfortunately not always available or able to perform all duties because of other responsibilities.

The Task Force Hotline serves to refer people with a broad range of needs, including rape victims, displaced homemakers, potential suicides, homeless and destitute persons, runaways, and abused children. The absence of any other resources for these people points up a need for a variety of other services including an attention home and helpline for children, such as runaways and abused or neglected children, and a rape hotline and resources network for rape victims. A similar need exists for advertised emergency services for potential suicides and others with immediate personal problems. These services would meet pressing emergency needs as well as relieve some of the burden from Task Force personnel.

Staff indicate that a few clients appear at the center from Banner (about five per year), and from Kimball (about two per year) counties.

The Task Force operates a shelter house that was donated by the City. The facility currently has adequate capacity, although certain other needs remain, such as landscaping to make it an attractive place for residents and for children to play.

Hotline and shelter use since the onset of the program in 1979 is presented in Table 8.14.1-2.

The shelter house was opened in January of 1980. Prior to that time motel rooms were used to shelter clients. The number of calls in January-December 1982 through the Hotline declined due to the installation of a business phone number at the shelter. Task Force staff reports that the clientele come from all socioeconomic categories and do not seem to vary with rural/urban residence or employment status. The staff indicate, however, that they see more people in the lower income brackets.

Table 8.14.1-2

HOTLINE AND SHELTER USE, DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE TASK FORCE  
(1979-1983)

<u>Period</u>	<u>Hotline Calls/Files</u>	<u>Shelter Clients</u>
Jan.-Dec. 1979:	61 calls 50 files opened	32 women, 2 men 42 children,
Jan.-Dec. 1980	287 calls 66 files opened	53 women, 99 children
Jan.-Dec. 1981	457 calls 89 files opened	61 women, 99 children
Jan.-Dec. 1982	348 calls 82 files opened	54 women, 103 children
Jan.-Mar. 1983	88 calls 25 files opened	14 women, 23 children

Source: Domestic Violence Task Force, 1983.

#### 8.14.1.1.5 Panhandle Day Care Center

The Panhandle Day Care Center is a nonprofit corporation, licensed by the State.

The center provides licensed day care and, during the summer, a preschool program. During the school year, it provides transportation to and from school for enrolled children and operates nearly at capacity. There are, however, several other small day care facilities in Scottsbluff, operated out of private homes, that can accommodate (typically) up to eight children each.

Revenues are exclusively in the form of fees paid to the center by parents. In some cases, other social service agencies may pay all or part of the fee. The revenues are used to pay salaries/benefits, supplies, insurance, and the loan on the facility.

The staff include three full-time and three part-time day care staff. In addition, there are three part-time Comprehensive Employment Training Act workers and five volunteer foster grandparents. The facility includes two large, open-space rooms totaling about 1,500 square feet and a playground.

The day care center is licensed to serve up to 44 children at any given time. Between 40 and 50 children, from 18 months to 12-years-old, are served each month.

#### 8.14.1.1.6 Neighborhood Family Service Center

The center is an incorporated facility, operating under the direction of the Nebraska Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The Neighborhood Family Service Center provides the following services:

- o Free health services for persons who do not qualify under public assistance, such as low-income families and newcomers to the region. These services include financial assistance in purchasing prescription medicines, health screening and education, nursing care, and physical examinations for school children.
- o A community-based program (Project Assist) on prevention of substance abuse. The program provides education to parents and recreational activities to children as an alternative to drug and alcohol abuse.

Expenditures for salaries/benefits and for purchase of the facility account for most of the program's costs. Substantial costs are incurred for the purchase of supplies/materials and for local travel.

There are no restrictions, other than age, on which children may be served on elementary school-based program (Risk Reduction Program) on alcohol and drug education. Teacher-training is provided, as are a curriculum, speakers, and films.

More public awareness of the center's health services is needed, particularly in the area of misuse of the local hospital's emergency room. Many persons use the emergency room unnecessarily, and incur large bills, when they could receive the same services at no cost at the center. Additionally, more public education on alcohol and drug abuse is needed, particularly counseling for elementary school children and education within the Hispanic community.

Table 8.14.1-3 shows programs and budgets for the center.

Table 8.14.1-3

#### NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY SERVICE CENTER PROGRAMS AND BUDGETS

<u>Program</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Nebraska Division on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse	\$40,000
State Health Department	30,000
Local church group	2,000
State Block Grant (for an incipient jobs program)	13,000
Private donations (approximate)	5,000

Source: Neighborhood Family Service Center, 1983.

The agency employs four paid staff, a project coordinator, the director of Project Assist, an outreach worker, and a part-time secretary-bookkeeper and eight volunteer workers. Two outreach staff persons have been dropped from the agency. The center occupies the first floor of a two-story building with 4,000 square feet of space in a residential area.

The health services are provided to low-income families that do not qualify for public assistance. Approximately 700 persons per year are so served. About 180 persons per year are served under Project Assist; they are nearly all ethnic minority clients, and many are Spanish-speaking only. The Risk Reduction Program is presented to all K-6 students in the local schools.

#### 8.14.1.1.7 Family Planning Service

The Family Planning Service is a division of the State Health Department. The agency provides clinics for women of child-bearing age, educational and medical services, and contraceptive services to enable the control of fertility. These services specifically include pregnancy testing, blood pressure monitoring; screening for anemia, diabetes, and VD; pelvic examinations; and training in breast self-examination. A physician is always available to the agency, and does all necessary prescribing.

Fees are charged according to a sliding scale and are based on State poverty guidelines. Those not required to pay are asked to make a donation. These fees cover about 40 percent of the costs of operating the service. The remainder is covered under Title V Block Grant monies. Costs of operation include staff salaries, purchase of prescriptions and contraceptive devices, and physicians' fees.

The staff includes the director, an aide, and a secretary. All are full-time staff. Volunteers assist in running the clinics. The facility occupies about 1,500 square feet of the State Health Department building in Scottsbluff and includes an administrative office, a meeting room, and examination rooms.

The clientele consists mostly of residents of Scotts Bluff County. A few are migrants; some come from Kimball County and some come to Scotts Bluff from Wyoming. Many clients are from low-income households. Three hundred and twenty-six clients were served between April and September 1982. As many as 1,000 have been seen during a 1-year period, representing the agency's present capacity.

#### 8.14.1.1.8 Mental Retardation Association (Region I)

The Mental Retardation Association (Region I) is a branch of the State Office of Mental Retardation, which operates under the Department of Public Institutions. Services provided include adult developmental services (e.g., basic life skills, prevocational workshops), social services, residential services, transportation, and child development services.

The annual budget is \$2 million. About 75 percent is allocated to salaries and benefits. The remainder is expended on transportation, leasing of facilities, and supplies and materials.

The staff include about 80 residential care workers, 20 workshop employees, and 20 program administration staff. No estimate of total facilities square footage is presently available.

The clienteles consist of 160 persons in 11 Panhandle counties. There are 135 adults and 25 children whose needs are not met by programs in the public schools. The capacity is presently about 175.

#### 8.14.1.1.9 Scotts Bluff County Housing Authority

The Scotts Bluff Housing Authority is a division of the Scotts Bluff County government. The Housing Authority provides subsidized housing for low-income households. No care services are provided; however, in some cases utility allowances may be available. There are many presently unused units, including about half designated for elderly residents. The present annual budget is \$457,000. Staff salaries and other administrative costs amount to \$157,000. General housing assistance payments, for rental from owners, amount to \$200,000. Another \$100,000 goes for rental under the moderate rehabilitation program, under which modified housing is provided to the elderly.

There are six full-time employees including an executive director, an administrative assistant, two clerks, and two maintenance staff. There are also four part-time maintenance staff. The facility, not including units, covers about 2,000 square feet. The units contain approximately 200,000 square feet of living space.

The subsidized housing is available to those eligible under low-income guidelines, and whose head of household is of legal Nebraska age.

#### 8.14.1.1.10 Department of Social Services

As of July 1, 1983 all County Welfare and Social Service programs came under the administration of the State Department of Social Services. The agency name has changed to the Department of Social Services. Counties are required to transfer all furniture, equipment, books, files, and records utilized by the welfare office to the Department of Social Services. Counties are also required to provide space, at levels existing prior to July 1, to the Department at no cost.

The counties will continue to be responsible for the general assistance program, including the medically indigent portion of the program. The counties also will share financial responsibility for the emergency assistance program (50 percent) and the catastrophic illness program (25 percent). The State will carry the remainder of the expenses. Lastly, county governments will continue to pay some portion of medical assistance payments (Medicaid) until July 1, 1986. Their responsibilities will decline through 1986 from the 1984 figure of 14 percent.

For all Nebraska Department of Social Services programs, services are provided in three major areas: income maintenance, social services, and medical services. Specific services are offered by all social services in the state in the following areas: disability, emergency assistance; food distribution; work incentive; refugee resettlement; child support enforcement; Low Income Energy Assistance Program; Medicaid (Title XIX); emergency medical assistance; disability related medical care services for crippled children; aged; disabled, and family contracted services; mental retardation services; staff services including child protection, foster care, transportation, homemaker, and chore assistance; licensing activities; casework related to state works; and adoption services.

The Scotts Bluff Department of Social Services is a pilot agency for the State. The agency is attempting to combine all possible programs under the

responsibility of eligibility workers, with the exception of a few program areas. The Scotts Bluff Department is organized in four program areas: eligibility and child support, child protective services, nursing home services, and information dissemination.

The major program categories have remained constant, although some funded programs have varied over the past several years. The staff has fluctuated somewhat, however. In FY 1979 through 1980, the staff totaled 45, dropping to 39 to 40 in 1980 through 1981 and 1981 through 1982, and rising to 43 in 1982 through 1983. The earlier drop reflected a service reorganization and combination effort by the state. The recent increase reflects an increased eligibility caseload.

The eligibility and child support unit has the following personnel: 9 secretarial staff and 1 supervisor, 2 clerical aides, 17 case workers, 4 supervisors, 1 child support worker, 1 director, 1 manager, and 1 WIN worker. The child protective services unit has four case workers and one supervisor. There is also a nursing home worker and a computer operator. There are 43 professional and clerical staff.

The Programs Director indicated that suitable housing for migrant workers is a major need in the area. His agency needs more automation of information and would increase staff to reduce caseload levels where appropriate.

The Scotts Bluff Department of Social Services received \$677,500 from the State for its administrative budget in FY 1982-1983. County general relief and assistance funds totaled \$584,400. Disbursements for the month of January 1983 are shown in Table 8.14.1-4.

Table 8.14.1-4

SCOTTS BLUFF DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
REPRESENTATIVE DISBURSEMENTS  
(January 1983)

<u>Category</u>	<u>Payment</u>
State and Federal Social Security Income Supplements	\$ 16,977
Food Stamps	\$140,359
Aid to Families with Dependent Children	\$192,820
Title XIX	\$233,890
Adult and Family Contracted Services (January - March 1983)	\$ 61,447

Source: Scotts Bluff Department of Social Services, 1983.

Activities are conducted through the Department headquarters buildings, with the exception of foster homes and other placement needs. The facility is currently adequate for the Department programs.

Using January 1983 as a representative month, the program provides monthly Aid to Families with Dependent Children to about 581 families or 1,772 people, food stamps to 1,202 households or 3,622 people, state supplemental income to 274 households, about \$326,000 in Medicaid assistance, social services for the elderly assistance to 1,102 people, and child protective services to about 200 children.

Caseloads for the eligibility and child support case workers run from about 1 worker to 170 cases to 1:212. Child protective services case workers have caseloads at about 1:45 to 1:50. Appropriate caseloads are in the area of 1:160 for eligibility workers and 1:40 for child protection workers, according to the Department Director. The clerical staff-to-case worker ratio is in the range of 1:3 or 1:4.

The small American Indian population in the area has multiple needs, according to the Director. He also indicated that the Hispanic population has disproportionately high needs for food stamps, but proportionate needs in other areas.

#### 8.14.1.1.11 Aging Office of Western Nebraska

The Aging Office of Western Nebraska is governed by a Board of Governors comprising county commissioners from each county, who are signatories to an interlocal agreement. Of the 11 counties in the Nebraska Panhandle, 10 are signatories; the exception is Banner County. Each of the eight aging offices is autonomous in establishing services for its geographic region. Each office also has an advisory board as well as a governing board.

Each office is represented through an advisory panel to the Department on Aging at the state level. The State's Department on Aging includes a policy-making body appointed by the Governor.

Depending on funding available, the Aging Office of Western Nebraska provides the following services: information, referral, and outreach; handyman, chore assistance; lawyer referral and legal services; ombudsman; home delivered meals; congregate meals; a needs survey; support for the Silver Hair Legislature; special workshops; and respite care.

The majority of these services are provided in all ten signatory counties, with the exception of Handyman/Chore Program in Garden and Sioux counties. Nineteen senior centers and four nutrition sites are served by the Aging Office. A senior center is defined as a focal point for services which is open at least 30 hours per week and provides recreation, meals services, and information referral.

The Aging Office does not own facilities, but enters into agreements with the senior centers to provide services. Each center has additional sources of funding from local government or fund-raising efforts. The senior centers and nutrition sites served by the Aging Office are listed in Table 8.14.1-5 with staffing and programs delivery also indicated. The only senior center that



Table 8.14.1-5

SENIOR CENTERS AND NUTRITION SITES  
SERVED BY THE AGING OFFICE OF WESTERN NEBRASKA

<u>Location</u>	<u>Facility Types</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Service</u>
Lyman	Senior Center	No paid coordination 2 part-time nutritional staff	25 average daily participants (meals) (adp) 1 meal per day (mpd) 5 days per week
Morrill	Nutrition Site	2 part-time nutrition staff 1 part-time home meals deliverer	30 adp 1 mpd 4 clients per week (clpw)
Mitchell	Nutrition Site (in a restaurant)	1 part-time staff	35 adp 1 mpd
Scottsbluff Jaycee	Senior Centers	1 full-time coordination 2 part-time nutrition staff	35 adp 1 mpd 4 clpw
Scottsbluff Guadalupe	Nutrition Site	3 part-time nutrition staff 1 part-time meal deliverer	25 adp 1 mpd 5 days per week
Scottsbluff (Site 4)	Nutrition Site	2 part-time nutrition staff	30 adp 1 mpd 5 days per week
Gering	Senior Center and Nutrition Site	1 full-time coordinator 4 part-time nutrition staff	75 adp 4 days per week 1 mpd
Minatare	Nutrition Site	2 part-time nutrition staff	25 adp 1 mpd 4 days per week
Kimball	Senior Center and Nutrition Site	1 full-time coordination 3 part-time staff	55 adp 1 mpd 5 days per week

Source: Aging Office of Western Nebraska, 1983.

operates independently of the Aging Office is in Bushnell, which does not wish assistance because of local attitudes regarding federal funding and regulations. The centers are owned and operated by local seniors, who serve as volunteers, except for those centers with paid coordinators.

The State's program for the elderly underwent a major political change in 1980. The Aging Office of Western Nebraska had been known as the Western Nebraska Area Agency on Aging. The counties dissolved the old agency and reestablished the same functions under the new name. Aside from this change, the programs have been very constant over the past several years, according to the Aging Office's directors.

No formal needs assessment has been carried out since 1978. However, each county has a local advisory council that informally surveys elderly needs and reports to the Aging Office's Advisory Council on a monthly basis. The primary current need in Kimball and Scotts Bluff counties is for expansion of the handyman program to provide more home maintenance assistance for those elderly who wish to remain in their own homes. Other problems are adequately met, according to the Aging Office of Western Nebraska's director. Facility needs are also judged to be adequate for any growth in the elderly population in the foreseeable future.

The Aging Office of Western Nebraska is a zero-based budget organization; its revenues equal its expenditures. The office has budgeted \$43,569 for Kimball County and \$232,310 for Scotts Bluff County for fiscal year beginning July 1, 1983. Revenue sources are shown in Table 8.14.1-6.

The office's staff provides much of the information on referral services directly. The staff consists of one director, one nutrition project coordinator, one fiscal coordinator (accountant), one bookkeeper, and one secretary/receptionist.

The Handyman/Chore Program is operated by contract payments for units of service between the Aging Office and independent contractors. This service is countywide in Scotts Bluff County, but in Kimball County is available only in the city of Kimball. Funds are provided by client donations and Title XX reimbursement.

The Handy-Bus program is available countywide in Scotts Bluff County and is administered by the County. Funds are provided by the State Department of Transportation, client donations, and county funds.

Clientele vary by need and age, and income prerequisites for each program. Generally speaking, elderly program recipients are low income, many below poverty levels as defined by the various funding groups.

Table 8.14.1-6

REVENUE SOURCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
AGING OFFICE OF WESTERN NEBRASKA  
(FY 1983)

<u>Source</u>	<u>Contribution</u>
Older American Act, Title III-C-1, Congregate Meals -	22%
Title III-C-2, Home Delivered Meals	4%
Title III-B, Social Services Activities (information and referral, handiman, etc.)	17%
Nebraska Community Aging Services Act	7%
In-Kind Services	
Cash and cash in-lieu of commodities	2%
(USDA) Commodities (food)	7%
Department of Public Welfare reimbursement (Title XX)	6%
Green Thumb Program (Low-income elderly employment)	2%
Individual Contributions and Received Services	18%
In-Kind Volunteered Time and Space	13%
County Funds	1%

Source: Aging Office of Western Nebraska, 1983.

8.14.1.1.12 Panhandle Mental Health Center

The Panhandle Mental Health Center in Scottsbluff operates under the Medical Services Division of the Nebraska Department of Public Institutions. The Mental Health Center provides services for the entire Panhandle region, including emergency mental health care, outpatient counseling and therapy, short-term inpatient services (via hospital contract), transitional services (preventive and aftercare living arrangements and treatment programs), and intermediate care services.

Funding comes from Region I contributions and from the State as shown in Table 8.14.1-7.

The Mental Health Center facility consists of a 5,500 square feet building north of downtown Scottsbluff.

The staff includes 37 full-time and 4 part-time professionals and 12 full-time and 2 part-time clerical/maintenance staff. Staff and facility resources are presently judged adequate to serve clients who request or are referred for services.

The Mental Health Center estimates that 1.7 percent of the Panhandle population actually uses the services it provides.

8.14.1.1.13 Homestead Halfway House and Detoxification Center

This agency provides protected shelter for recovering male alcoholics and detoxification services for men impaired by alcohol. The population served tends to be between 35 and 65 years of age.

8.14.1.1.14 Women's Alcohol Resource Council, Inc.

This agency provides shelter, board, and counseling to recovering female alcoholics. The agency serves women older than 17 years. The facility is presently licensed for 8 clients, while it has room for 12.

Table 8.14.1-7

REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES  
PANHANDLE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER  
(FY 1982)

<u>Region I: Expenditures</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Personnel		
Personal Services (salaries/benefits)	\$ 892,539	72.9%
Contractual Services (consultation, medical, janitorial, legal, etc.)	145,386	11.9%
Other (rental, utilities, supplies, travel, etc.)	<u>186,277</u>	<u>15.2%</u>
TOTAL:	\$2,224,202	
<u>Nebraska Expenditures</u>		
Personnel		
Personal Services	\$9,104,733	64.6%
Contractual Services	1,091,385	7.7%
Other	<u>3,906,476</u>	<u>27.7%</u>
TOTAL:	\$14,102,594	
<u>Region I: Revenue Sources</u>		
Client Fees and Insurance		12%
Federal Funds		21%
County Funds		14%
State Funds		48%
Other		5%

#### 8.14.1.1.15 Summary of Human Service Needs

Six particular areas of need exist in Scotts Bluff County:

- o There is a shortage of volunteer workers for the Domestic Violence Task Force.
- o Not enough services exist for victims of violence (rape, potential suicide, runaways, and abused children) or for displaced homemakers. It may be that these groups exist but cannot or do not avail themselves of such services as do exist.
- o Expansion of a handyman program to help the elderly maintain their homes is needed.
- o A housing program for migrant workers (who generally are not served by the Housing Authority) is needed.
- o More awareness of the availability of low or no-cost health care, and of substance abuse dangers, is needed.
- o More substance abuse programs for the Indian population are needed.

#### 8.14.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 8.14.1.2.1 Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency

The Nebraska Panhandle Community Action Agency in Scotts Bluff County provides county residents with nutrition, weatherization, Head Start, and various child and family development programs. Because the majority of its programs involve children, the following projections are based on rates of population change among persons under 20 years of age.

The present facility is adequate to serve the needs of the client group. However, the cost of utilities is quite high, and the Agency may move to a facility that requires lower operating costs.

There are presently 57 staff serving 3,240 clients; the average caseload is 57. Under the population projections for 1983 to 1992, the present average caseload can be maintained at no increase in staff size.

The population projections estimate that the principal target population will decrease by 2 percent between 1983 and 1992. In this event, however, levels of service are not expected to decline.

##### 8.14.1.2.2 Domestic Violence Task Force

The Task Force provides shelter, transportation, and emergency legal, medical, and financial support to victims of domestic violence. The service impacted most critically by an increase in clientele is the shelter, which can house four clients. If more than four clients must be served, they can be placed in a motel, but this is an undesirable alternative due to greater cost and lower security. The capacity is therefore flexible at some cost to service quality. There are no present plans to expand the basic facility.

Since 1980, the average maximum length of stay in the shelter has been 1 month. On the basis of population projections for the County, which increase by 2 percent between 1983 and 1992, it is projected that capacity can be maintained if length of stay is reduced by, at most, 1 day per month. It should be noted that the facility is rented from the City, and that the City is considering renting the house to another agency. In that case, a return to the prior method of sheltering persons in local motels would probably occur.

On the basis of population projections, the number of clients to be sheltered annually are estimated in Table 8.14.1-8.

Table 8.14.1-8

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE  
BASELINE CLIENT PROJECTIONS  
(1983-1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Client:	155	157	158	160	161	163	165	166	168	170

Source: Total baseline population projections, Scotts Bluff County, 1980-82 agency usage rates.

The usage rate employed in deriving these projections is based on population projections and age-sex cohort projections. It has remained stable over the period from January 1980 to March 1983. The shelter has housed as many as 160 persons, in calendar year 1981.

8.14.1.2.3 Panhandle Day Care Center

The Panhandle Day Care Center provides day care and a preschool program for children between 1 and 12 years of age. It is licensed to serve 44 children. It operates at slightly under capacity during the school year and well under capacity during the summer months.

Under the population projections for those under 13 years of age in Scotts Bluff County, this segment of the population is expected to decrease between 1983 and 1992, and the projected baseline assumption implies that day care needs will continue to be met.

8.14.1.2.4 Neighborhood Family Service Center

This agency provides three general services to the residents of Scotts Bluff County:

- o Free health services to low-income families (these are principally physicals required for attendance at public schools);
- o A project under which educational programs and recreational alternatives to drug and alcohol usage are provided to minority, primarily Spanish-speaking, youth; and

- o Education about the effects of alcohol and drugs, carried out in the school systems.

These three programs are targeted at the school-age population. It is anticipated that these programs will not be impacted by population change under the projected baseline assumption.

#### 8.14.1.2.5 Family Planning Service

The clientele of this agency is restricted to females of childbearing years, here taken to cover the range of ages from 15 to 39. On that basis, the rate of usage during calendar year 1982 was 8.5 percent. The projected usage rates for 1983 to 1995 are displayed in Table 8.14.1-9.

Table 8.14.1-9

#### FAMILY PLANNING SERVICE BASELINE CLIENT AND CASELOAD PROJECTIONS (1982-1992)

	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Clients	647	N/A	655	664	669	674	679	685	691	698	705
Clients per Staff	216	N/A	218	221	223	225	227	229	231	233	235

Note: N/A - not available

Source: Age-sex-cohort projections, females age 15-39, Scotts Bluff County projected baseline population; 1982 agency usage rate.

With the present size of facility and staff, as many as 1,000 clients have been adequately served during one calendar year, a figure higher than those projected above.

#### 8.14.1.2.6 Mental Retardation Association (Region I)

This agency provides vocational and residential services to mentally retarded residents of the Nebraska Panhandle. Although some children are served, the public school districts also provide services to school age children, so about 85 percent of the clients are adults. The projections are based on population estimates weighted by proportional adult representation.

The Mental Retardation Association employs 120 staff. Assuming no change in average caseload, no change in required number of staff is anticipated on the basis of the following projections. Similarly, no change in required facility capacity is foreseen. Presently 160 clients are served, while the capacity is 175.

The projections displayed in Table 8.14.1-10 are made on the basis of differential population change rates for adults versus young children and adolescents.

Table 8.14.1-10

MENTAL RETARDATION ASSOCIATION  
BASELINE ADULT AND CHILDREN/ADOLESCENT CLIENT PROJECTIONS  
(1983-1992)

<u>Clients</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Adults	135	137	139	140	142	144	146	148	150	151
Children/ Adolescents	25	25	25	25	25	25	26	26	26	26

Source: Age-cohort projections, persons under and over 21 years of age, Scotts Bluff County projected baseline population; 1983 agency usage rates.

#### 8.14.1.2.7 Scotts Bluff County Housing Authority

The County Housing Authority provides government subsidized, low-rent apartments to low-income residents of Scotts Bluff County. The Housing Authority and private builders together currently make available about 500 units in the county. At present, only the 162 units operated by the Housing Authority are being used to capacity.

Under the baseline population projections for Scotts Bluff County, only a (3 percent) increase in numbers of low-income residents is expected to occur between 1983 and 1992. This increase would be well within the capacity of the total of 500 available units.

#### 8.14.1.2.8 Department of Social Services

The Department of Social Services administers several programs that are categorized generally into income maintenance and social services. The projections in Table 8.14.1-11 are made on the basis of total population estimates, the present usage rate per program category, and the number of professional staff per category.

Present caseload-to-staff ratios are somewhat higher than the maximum desirable for both income maintenance and social services staff (190 and 48 cases, per staff member, respectively). Should numbers of clients increase as projected, both income maintenance and social services staff will experience higher staff to client ratios than desired.

The above projections represent best estimates, but they contain an indeterminate number of duplicated households in the caseload numbers.

The Department Director states that the present facility is adequate to support a 10-percent increase in number of cases, a figure that is in excess of the projected increase in caseload.



Table 8.14.1-11

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BASELINE CASELOAD-TO-STAFF  
PROJECTIONS: INCOME MAINTENANCE AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
(1983-1992)

<u>Year</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Income Maintenance	190	192	194	196	198	200	202	204	206	208
Social Services	48	48	49	50	50	51	51	52	52	53

Note: Ratios expressed as 190 and 48 rather than 190:1 and 48:1.

Source: Total baseline population projections, Scotts Bluff County, 1983 agency usage rates and staff levels.

At present, the Department serves approximately 3,200 cases in income maintenance programs and 800 cases in social services. Should the present usage rates per total population remain constant (and this represents a best estimate, alternatives such as low-income rates do not necessarily represent the number of users of agency resources), the projections of numbers of cases in Table 8.14.1-12 apply.

Table 8.14.1-12

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES BASELINE CASE  
PROJECTIONS: INCOME MAINTENANCE AND SOCIAL SERVICES  
(1983-1992)

<u>Year</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
<u>Clients</u>										
Income Maintenance	3,200	3,233	3,267	3,300	3,333	3,367	3,401	3,436	3,469	3,503
Social Services	800	808	816	825	833	842	850	859	867	876

Source: Total baseline population projections, Scotts Bluff County; 1983 agency usage rates.

8.14.1.2.9 Aging Office of Western Nebraska

The Aging Office provides several assistance programs to elderly Nebraskans: nutrition services, home maintenance, transportation, information, and referral. Those participating in the latter four programs also participate in the nutrition program. Therefore, the average participation in the nutrition program has been used to project future client group size for all Aging Office programs. The population projection basis has employed the 60 and older subgroup.

Most of the Aging Office's nutrition staff are part-time employees, and other programs use contracted services. An exact figure representing staff size thus cannot be derived. The projections below therefore use an estimate of 15 FTE for the nutrition program. Staff size projections for 1983 to 1992, holding caseload-to-staff ratios constant, are displayed in Table 8.14.1-13.

Table 8.14.1-13

AGING OFFICE OF WESTERN NEBRASKA  
BASELINE STAFF AND CLIENTELE PROJECTIONS  
(1983-1992)

	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
Projected Staff	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	16	16
Clients	275	277	279	281	284	286	288	290	292	295

Source: Age-cohort projections, persons 60 and older, Scotts Bluff County projected baseline population; 1982 agency usage rates.

The capacity of the present facilities is more than adequate to accommodate the projected numbers of clients.

Based on projections of changes in the size of the subpopulation over 60 years of age, the number of clients expected to use Aging Office services between 1983 and 1992 is displayed in Table 8.14.1-13. This represents an 7.3 percent increase during the 10-year period.

8.14.1.2.10 Panhandle Mental Health Center

The Panhandle Mental Health Center provides the residents of the Nebraska Panhandle with therapy, consultation, and related services. The proportion of the population that makes use of Mental Health Center tends to vary within narrow limits: i.e., 1.5 percent to 3.3 percent.

The population of Scotts Bluff County is expected to increase by 9.5 percent between 1983 and 1992, under the projected baseline assumption. Current levels of service for this county are expected to be affected by this population increases only negligibly.

The same projections apply to services provided by the Mental Health Center in Banner and Kimball counties.

8.14.1.2.11 Homestead Halfway House and Detoxification Center

This agency provides protected shelter for recovering male alcoholics and detoxification services for men impaired by alcohol. The population served tends to be between 35 and 65 years of age. The following projections are based on estimated population sizes for that subgroup.

Under the projection of 12 percent growth in the subpopulation of 35 to 65 year old males, the staff will experience no growth. The facility, how-

ever, presently operates at its capacity. An 12 percent growth the potential clientele would mean that these men would have to seek assistance elsewhere. Mitigating this difficulty is the fact that about 50 percent of the clients do not reside in the Panhandle.

#### 8.14.1.2.12 Women's Alcohol Resources Council, Inc.

This agency provides shelter, board, and counseling to recovering female alcoholics. The following projections are based on population estimates for females older than 17 years, the agency's target group.

The population of females older than 17 years is expected to increase by 9 percent between 1983 and 1992. Under this assumption, and with a constant per staff caseload, the staff size and the facility capacity is expected to increase only negligibly.

The facility has room for 12 clients, but is presently licensed for 8. It could accommodate more clients than are expected under the projections by obtaining license for one more resident.

#### 8.14.1.3 Project Impacts

It is anticipated that there will be only a negligible impact on human service agencies in Scotts Bluff County due to the project. During the peak year, 1988, 350 immigrants are expected to be in the county. This represents an increase of 0.2 percent over the projected baseline population for 1988.

#### 8.14.1.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures should be necessary to deal with the project-related population in Scotts Bluff County because of the negligible population increases expected. However, a monitoring program is suggested to identify unexpected unmet needs related to the community's well-being.

### 8.14.2 Health Care Facilities and Personnel

#### 8.14.2.1 Baseline Description

##### 8.14.2.1.1 Hospital Facilities and Personnel

West Nebraska General Hospital in Scottsbluff is a regional medical center for an area that encompasses Scotts Bluff, Morrill, and Box Butte counties, Nebraska, and Goshen County, Wyoming, and extends into Cheyenne, Dawes, Sheridan, Kimball, Sioux, Banner, Garden, and Deuel counties, Nebraska. The hospital has 269 licensed beds in 2 units. The North unit was constructed in 1967 and the South unit in 1948. Licensed beds include 186 acute care, 18 pediatric, 16 ICU/CCU, 17 obstetric, 26 chemical dependency, and 6 neonatal beds. Only 244 of the licensed beds are operational due to space availability. Current occupancy rate is 77 percent, with an average daily census of 170.2 patients. There are 114 physicians on the medical staff including 65 active and associate, and 49 courtesy staff. Specialties represented include anesthesiology, emergency medicine, family practice, internal medicine, neurosurgery, neurology, obstetrics, gynecology, ophthalmology, orthopedics, radiation therapy, radiology, general surgery, and urology. Between summer 1983

and winter 1984, an additional 6 physicians are scheduled to join the hospital staff including a radiologist, family practitioner, ophthalmologist, oral surgeon, pediatrician, and orthopedic surgeon. There are 71 RNs, 61.9 FTE LPNs, and 21 FTE nurse's aides. Services provided include intensive care, megavolt radiation therapy, diagnostic radioisotope, therapeutic radioisotope, electroencephalography, respiratory therapy, premature nursery, neonatal intensive care, hemodialysis (inpatient and outpatient), physical therapy, psychiatric emergency service, psychiatric consultation and education, 24-hour physician staffed emergency room, social work service, genetic counseling, home care program, speech pathology, alcoholism inpatient unit, alcoholism outpatient service, pediatric inpatient unit, and CT scanner.

The hospital has submitted an application for certificate of need to the Nebraska Department of Health for a major addition and remodeling project. The project would include new radiology and surgery departments, and a new 42-bed patient unit in the North unit. The South unit complement would be decreased by 42 beds. In addition, an expanded dietetics/food service would be constructed in the area vacated by the radiology and surgery departments. Future consolidations and expansions would be incorporated into the construction plan. Action on this application had not been taken at the time of this writing.

#### 8.14.2.1.2 Emergency Medical Services

Scotts Bluff County currently is not affiliated with the 911 Emergency Phone System, and there are no definite plans for affiliation. All the ambulances and the hospital in Scotts Bluff are hooked into the Emergency Medical Services Frequency and the State Law Enforcement Frequency.

There are approximately 15 ambulances in Scotts Bluff County; 3 are located in Scottsbluff, 3 (1 new and 2 older backup units) in Gering, 2 in Mitchell, 2 in Morrill, 2 in Lyman, 1 in Melbeta, and 2 in Minatare. The Valley Ambulance Service in Scottsbluff is the only privately-operated service and receives a subsidy from the county. The service has one air ambulance. Scotts Bluff is also within the service area covered by the Military Assistance to Safety and Traffic Air Ambulance Service. There are approximately 180 emergency medical technicians in Scotts Bluff County, with different levels of training.

#### 8.14.2.1.3 Public Health Department

The Scotts Bluff County Health Department is divided into Community Health Nursing and Education and Environmental Health. The nursing service employs two full-time RNs, contracted through the West Nebraska General Hospital. Services include prenatal classes, maternal health and child care, immunization clinics, blood pressure and blood sugar screenings, school nursing, child abuse and neglect counseling, tuberculosis testing, communicable disease investigation and control, home visits, health education, senior citizen center screenings, and health service to the county jail. There are no physicians on staff; however, there is one advisory physician on the County Health Board.

The Environmental Health Department employs two sanitarians. Services provided include private water supply sampling, sewage disposal enforcement, refuse disposal enforcement, pest control, school inspections, mobile home

park inspection, child care home inspections, home loan evaluations, communicable disease investigation and reporting, and miscellaneous environmental health programs.

There are no current plans for expanding the Public Health Department. The one problem area is the lack of a convenient laboratory for water testing. The state branch laboratory was recently closed, and there are no plans for replacing it. Samples are now being shipped to Lincoln and response time is not satisfactory. A summary of revenue and expenditures for the Department is provided in Table 8.14.2-1.

#### 8.14.2.1.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

##### 8.14.2.1.4.1 Nursing Homes

There are 3 nursing homes in Scotts Bluff County. Scottsbluff Villa Nursing Home, located in Scottsbluff, is owned and operated by Midwest Health Care of Omaha, Nebraska. There are 210 licensed beds - 134 intermediate and 76 apartment dwellings. Current occupancy is 78 percent for the intermediate care and 51 percent for the apartment dwellings. These are low occupancies for the facility; average occupancy is around 87 percent overall. There is 1 staff physician on a contract basis, 4 RNs, 9 LPNs, and 49 nurses aides full time and part time. Other professional staff includes a social worker and a food supervisor. The home has contracted with a physical therapist, occupational therapist, and speech therapist. There are no plans for expanding the facility.

Heritage Health Care Center, located in Gering, has 101 licensed beds. Average occupancy is 95 percent. The facility is owned and operated by Vetter Health Services, Inc., of Omaha. Professional staff includes a medical director/consultant (1 day/week), 1 in-service consultant RN, 5 RNs, 5 LPNs, and approximately 40 nurse's aides. The facility has contracted with a physical therapist and a speech therapist, a dietitian, and pharmacist. There are no current plans for expansion.

Western Nebraska Nursing Home, located in Mitchell, is licensed for 50 intermediate care beds, with a 96-percent occupancy rate. The facility is privately owned and operated. There are no physicians on staff. Nursing staff includes 3 RNs, 1 LPN, and 9 nurse's aides. The home has contracted with a physical therapist and a home health therapist. There are plans to remodel the facility, but this would not include increasing the number of beds.

##### 8.14.2.1.4.2 Clinics

There are three clinics in Scotts Bluff County. The Gentry Clark Medical Center, located in Gering, has four family practice physicians, one RN, two LPNs, two nurse's aides, one medical technician, and medical assistant. The clinic has one examination table. Services provided include X-ray, lab, limited physical therapy, immunizations, minor emergencies, and physical checkups.

Table 8.14.2-1

SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
FINANCIAL REPORT, 1981-1982

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Expended</u>
Salaries and Benefits	\$45,869	\$ 44,669
Nursing Contract with West Nebraska General Hospital	47,162	47,252
Operating Expense	2,250	1,981
Travel and Mileage	3,500	3,859
Mosquito Control	4,000	2,584
Predatory Animal Control	200	112
Miscellaneous Expense	400	370
Machinery and Equipment	400	2,500
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$103,781</b>	<b>\$103,330</b>

Balance: June 30, 1982 - \$450

Revenue Sources:

State of Nebraska (Federal 314-D Funds)	\$12,425
Mosquito Control (Contracting Cities & S.I.D.s)	9,196
School Nursing Services	4,531
Mobile Home Park Licensing	305
Miscellaneous	79
Federal Grant	445

Subtotal: \$26,981

Reserve and Carryover	12,450
Local Tax Requirement	64,348

**TOTAL: \$103,781**

Source: Scotts Bluff County Health Department, Annual Report, 1981-1982.

The Gering Medical Clinic located in Gering, has 4 physicians, all family practice, 4 RNs plus 1 part-time as needed, 1 LPN, and 1 lab technician. There are 12 examination rooms. Services provided include X-ray, lab, some physical therapy, immunizations, physicals, and minor emergencies. The clinic is recruiting an additional physician.

The Bluffs Medical Clinic, located in Scottsbluff, has four family practitioners, six RNs, and an X-ray technician. There are nine examination rooms. Services provided include X-ray, lab, some physical therapy, immunizations, physicals, and minor emergencies.

#### 8.14.2.1.4.3 Dentists

There are an estimated 27 dentists in Scotts Bluff County, 6 of whom are semiretired. There is a full range of dental services available. Dentists in Scotts Bluff provide services to patients throughout the Panhandle region including parts of Wyoming.

#### 8.14.2.2 Projected Baseline

##### 8.14.2.2.1 Hospital Facilities and Personnel

Baseline population figures for Scotts Bluff County indicate an average annual increase of less than 1 percent between 1983 and 1992. This level of growth would not significantly impact provision of services at West Nebraska General Hospital.

##### 8.14.2.2.2 Emergency Medical Services

The small increase in population would not significantly affect provision of emergency medical services in Scotts Bluff County. The current levels of service are adequate for existing and projected population levels.

##### 8.14.2.2.3 Public Health Department

Projected population levels would not significantly affect provision of services by the Scotts Bluff County Health Department.

##### 8.14.2.2.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

Nursing homes, clinics, and dental services are adequate to accommodate projected increases in population through 1992.

#### 8.14.2.3 Project Impacts

##### 8.14.2.3.1 Hospital Facilities and Personnel

The project would have negligible impact on hospital facilities and medical staff in Scotts Bluff County. Based on a maximum increase of 350 persons in peak year 1988, existing facilities and personnel would be adequate with no necessary expansions.

##### 8.14.2.3.2 Emergency Medical Services

The small increase in population would have a negligible impact on provision of emergency medical services.

##### 8.14.2.3.3 Public Health Department

The small increase in population would have a negligible impact on provision of services by the Public Health Department.

##### 8.14.2.3.4 Other Facilities and Personnel

Nursing homes, clinics, and dentists in Scotts Bluff County would incur a negligible impact due to the small increase in population.

#### 8.14.2.4 Mitigative Measures

There are no significant impacts on health care facilities in Scotts Bluff County. Therefore, no mitigative measures are presented. Health planning officials in the County will be updated on potential population impacts, as necessary.

### **8.14.3 Scotts Bluff County: Housing Resources**

#### **8.14.3.1 Baseline Description**

##### **8.14.3.1.1 Housing Stock**

Year-round housing stock in the cities of Scottsbluff and Gering increased by 794 and 971 units, respectively, from 1970 to 1980 as shown in Table 8.14.3-1. This increase represented a 16-percent change for Scottsbluff and a 52 percent change for Gering for that 10-year period. By comparison, housing stock for all of Scotts Bluff County, including both cities, showed a positive change of 2,941 units or 24 percent. Approximately 39 percent of all year-round housing units in the county are found in Scottsbluff while 19 percent are found in Gering.

The growth in housing stock since the 1980 Census for both cities and the county has been modest according to data distributed by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Table 8.14.3-2 shows the growth in housing stock by permits issued for new housing for the years 1980 to 1982 for the cities and the county.

##### **8.14.3.1.2 Housing Mix**

The housing mix for the cities and county presented in Table 8.14.3-1 show that single-family units make up the largest housing category. Although both cities experienced growth in mobile homes that exceeded 240 percent, no major shifts occurred in the mix during this 10-year period.

The location of housing types can be derived from Table 8.14.3-1. In 1980 Scottsbluff contained approximately 37 percent of the total single-family, 60 percent of the total multifamily and 27 percent of the mobile homes in the county. Gering contained 19 percent single-family, 20 percent multifamily, and 11 percent mobile homes for the same date.

Scottsbluff and Gering as percentages of Scotts Bluff County only changed by 4 percent respectively, between 1970 and 1980. The location of housing types for 1970 was most likely representative of the 1980 condition. Utilizing housing mix as an indication of housing preference, the 1970 and 1980 Census data present a stable housing preference condition for the population base.

##### **8.14.3.1.3 Housing Conditions**

Housing conditions are expressed in terms of plumbing facilities, and persons per room for the cities of Scottsbluff and Gering and the county. Table 8.14.3-3 indicates that 211 units in the entire county, 64 units in Scottsbluff, and 13 units in Gering, lacked complete plumbing for exclusive use. As a percentage of year-round housing units, both cities and the county fell below 1.5 percent for this housing condition characteristic. A comparison of the 1970 and 1980 Census indicates that 56 units in Scottsbluff, 24 units in Gering, and 289 units in the county had been either improved and/or removed from the housing stock.

Another indication of housing conditions is the number of persons living in crowded units. The Census defines a crowded housing unit as one with over



Table 8.14.3-1

HOUSING MIX  
CITIES OF SCOTTSBLUFF AND GERING, AND SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1970 AND 1980

Housing Type	1970		1980		1970-1980 Change	
	Year-Round Units	% of Total	Year-Round Units	% of Total	# of Units	% Change
<u>Scottsbluff</u>						
Single Family	3,825	75%	4,409	75%	584	15%
Multifamily	1,214	24%	1,226	21%	12	1%
Mobile Homes	82	1%	280	4%	198	241%
TOTAL:	5,121	100%	5,915	100%	794	16%
<u>Gering</u>						
Single Family	1,516	82%	2,299	81%	783	52%
Multifamily	307	16%	412	15%	105	34%
Mobile Homes	34	2%	117	4%	83	244%
TOTAL:	1,857	100%	2,828	100%	971	52%
<u>Scotts Bluff County</u>						
Single Family	9,630	80%	11,913	79%	2,283	24%
Multifamily	1,973	16%	2,033	14%	60	3%
Mobile Homes	451	4%	1,049	7%	598	133%
TOTAL:	12,054	100%	14,995	100%	2,941	24%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1970 and 1980.  
U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska Detailed Housing Characteristics, 1970.

1.01 persons per room. Table 8.14.3-3 shows for 1970 and 1980, for both cities and the county, over 91 percent of the units were considered uncrowded. By 1980, only 3.5 percent of the occupied housing units in Scottsbluff and 2.7 percent in Gering exceeded the 1.01 or less persons-per room category.

Table 8.14.3-2

NEW HOUSING PERMITS,  
CITIES OF SCOTTSBLUFF AND GERING, AND SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1980-1982

	1980		1981		1982	
	S.F. <sup>1</sup>	Total <sup>2</sup>	S.F. <sup>1</sup>	Total <sup>2</sup>	S.F. <sup>1</sup>	Total <sup>2</sup>
Scottsbluff	36	92	14	20	15	39
Gering	41	43	29	53	13	13
Scotts Bluff County	107	161	67	97	40	68

<sup>1</sup> S.F. - Single Family Homes.

<sup>2</sup> Total - Total Housing Units.

Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development, 1983.

8.14.3.1.4 Housing Occupancy and Vacancy

Table 8.14.3-4 illustrates the housing occupancy and vacancy status for Scottsbluff for 1980 by type of unit. The highest vacancy rate was multifamily at 13.0 percent. Although the largest number of vacant units was found to be single family, the rate was only 5.0 percent. Mobile homes had a vacancy rate of 5 percent also, while the total vacancy rate was 7.0 percent. The vacancy rate indicated is for mobile home units only. Pads are not considered in the mobile home unit supply. Scottsbluff experienced a total vacancy rate of 6.0 percent in 1970 according to the Census.

Owner-occupied units totaled 3,523, and renter-occupied units totaled 1,993 for Scottsbluff in 1980. With 68 units listed as "for sale only" and 198 units as "for rent," Scottsbluff experienced a homeowner vacancy rate of 2.0 percent and a rental vacancy rate of 10.0 percent in 1980. By comparison, the 1970 homeowner vacancy rate was 1 percent while the rental vacancy rate was 8.0 percent.

Table 8.14.3-4 also shows the housing occupancy and vacancy status for Gering for 1980 by type of unit. The highest vacancy rate by type of unit was multifamily at 18.0 percent. Although the largest number of vacant units was found to be single family, the rate was only 4.0 percent. Mobile homes had a vacancy rate of 12.0 percent while the total vacancy rate was 7.0 percent. Gering experienced a total vacancy rate of 4.0 percent in 1970, according to the Census.

Owner-occupied units totaled 1,992, and renter-occupied units totaled 647 for Gering in 1980. With 29 units listed as "for sale only" and 95 units as "for rent," Gering experienced a homeowner vacancy rate of 1 percent and a rental vacancy rate of 15.0 percent in 1980. By comparison, the 1970 homeowner vacancy rate was 2.0 percent while the rental vacancy rate was 9.0 percent.

Table 8.14.3-3

**HOUSING CONDITIONS - (PLUMBING FACILITIES, PERSONS PER ROOM)  
CITIES OF SCOTTSBLUFF AND GERING, AND SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1970 AND 1980**

	<u>Plumbing Facilities</u>			
	<u>Year-Round Housing Units</u>		<u>% Lacking Complete Plumbing for Exclusive Use</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>
Scottsbluff	5,121	5,915	120	64
Gering	1,857	2,828	37	13
Scotts Bluff County	12,028	14,995	500	211
			4.2	1.4

Persons Per room For Occupied Housing Units

<u>Persons Per Room -</u>	<u>1.0 or Less</u>		<u>% 1.0 or Less</u>		<u>1.01 to 1.50</u>		<u>% 1.01 to 1.50</u>		<u>1.51 or More</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>
Scottsbluff	4,468	5,324	92.5	96.5	266	122	5.5	2.2	97	70
Gering	1,644	2,577	92.4	97.3	97	44	5.5	1.7	38	18
Scotts Bluff County	10,303	13,342	91.4	96.6	964 <sup>a</sup>	327	8.6	2.4	N/A	144
									N/A	1.0

Notes: a For 1970 Scotts Bluff County, the 1.01 to 1.50 category includes all persons per room over 1.01.

N/A - Not available.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1970 and 1980.

Table 8.14.3-4

HOUSING OCCUPANCY AND VACANCY  
CITIES OF SCOTTSBLUFF AND GERING, NEBRASKA  
1980

<u>Housing Type</u>	<u>Year-Round Housing Units</u>		<u>Occupied</u>		<u>Vacant</u>		<u>Vacancy Rate</u>	
	<u>Scottsbluff</u>	<u>Gering</u>	<u>Scottsbluff</u>	<u>Gering</u>	<u>Scottsbluff</u>	<u>Gering</u>	<u>Scottsbluff</u>	<u>Gering</u>
Single Family	4,409	2,299	4,187	2,197	222	102	5%	4%
Multifamily	1,226	412	1,063	339	163	73	13%	18%
Mobile Homes	280	117	266	103	14	14	5%	12%
TOTAL:	5,915	2,828	5,516	2,639	399	189	7%	7%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1980.

#### 8.14.3.1.5 Housing Values, Prices, and Rents

The median value of owner-occupied housing for Scottsbluff was \$13,000 in 1970, and increased to \$35,400 by 1980. The median monthly contract rent for Scottsbluff increased from \$69 in 1970 to \$154 in 1980 for renter-occupied housing units. Of the 1,984 renter-occupied units in 1980, the largest number, 337, fell into the \$120 to \$149 monthly rental price range in Scottsbluff.

The median value of owner-occupied housing for Gering was \$14,400 in 1970, and increased to \$39,600 by 1980. The median monthly contract rent increased from \$67 in 1970, to \$166 in 1980 for renter-occupied housing units. Of the 644 renter-occupied units in 1980, the largest number, 175, fell into the \$150 to \$199 monthly rental price range in Gering. All dollars are in current dollars.

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development provides average-selling price data by county for single-family residential units. Table 8.14.3-5 indicates the average selling price for Scotts Bluff County for the years 1979 through 1982.

Table 8.14.3-5

#### AVERAGE SELLING PRICE - SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY 1979-1982

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Sales</u>	<u>Average Selling Price</u>
1979	668	\$37,377
1980	436	40,656
1981	333	31,703
1982	179	43,472

Note: All dollars are in current dollars.

Source: Nebraska Department of Economic Development, 1983.

#### 8.14.3.1.6 Mobile Homes Parks

Nine mobile home parks were identified by a 1983 survey to exist in Scotts Bluff County, four of which were located in Scottsbluff, and one in Gering. The 4 parks in Scottsbluff contained 376 spaces, 66 of which were vacant, resulting in a vacancy rate of 18 percent. The mobile home park in Gering contained 183 spaces, 4 of which were vacant, resulting in a vacancy rate of 2 percent. Mobile home parks in Scottsbluff ranged in size from 48 to 173 spaces.

Based on survey data, only 9 of the 376 units located in mobile home parks in Scottsbluff are available on a rental basis. The remaining 367 units are all owner-occupied. Based on survey data, the 179 units in Gering are all owner-occupied.

Monthly space/pad rentals for the owner-occupied units in Scottsbluff ranged from \$50 to \$125. In Gering, the monthly space/pad rental rate of owner-occupied units was approximately \$60. Space deposits ranged from \$0 to \$85 in Scottsbluff and were \$60 in Gering.

Monthly rental rates for a single-wide unit in Scottsbluff ranged from \$150 to \$225, with the required deposits ranging from \$85 to \$100.

Based on interviews with mobile home managers and owners, there are no plans to expand or develop new spaces within the existing parks.

#### 8.14.3.1.7 Hotels and Motels

Seventeen hotel and motel operations, 13 located in Scottsbluff and 2 in Gering, were identified by a 1983 survey to exist in Scotts Bluff County. Of the 13 in Scottsbluff, 8 were franchised operations, accounting for 278 rooms (55 percent of total), and 428 beds (61 percent of total). The 5 non-franchised hotels in Scottsbluff contain 226 rooms (45 percent of total) and 271 beds (39 percent of total). The two motels in Gering were both non-franchised operations, accounting for 71 rooms (100 percent of total), and 101 beds (100 percent of total) as seen in Table 8.14.3-6.

Table 8.14.3-6

#### HOTEL AND MOTEL CHARACTERISTICS SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING 1983

	<u>Hotels</u>		<u>Rooms</u>		<u>Beds</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<u>Scottsbluff:</u>						
Franchise	8	62	278	55	428	61
Nonfranchise	5	38	226	45	271	39
Total:	13	100	504	100	699	100
<u>Gering:</u>						
Franchise	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nonfranchise	2	100	71	100	101	100
Total:	2	100	71	100	101	100

Source: 1983 Housing Survey.

The franchised operations offered a higher percentage of typical services and amenities than the nonfranchised hotels. Three nonfranchised hotels in Scottsbluff offer cooking facilities in the unit, totaling 24 units. No cooking facilities were available in the nonfranchise hotels in Gering. No franchise operations in either Scottsbluff or Gering offered this amenity.

The only long-term rate offered by the hotels was a weekly rate by a non-franchised hotel in Scottsbluff. The rate for a single bed unit was listed as \$40 to \$60.

Occupancy rates by season were only available for the nonfranchised hotels. The summer occupancy rate ranged from 75 percent to 100 percent with the weighted average at 85 percent. The winter occupancy rate ranged from 55 to 80 percent with the weighted average at 61 percent. The annual occupancy rate for the nonfranchised hotels in Gering was listed between 55 percent to 85 percent with the weighted average of 72 percent. The annual occupancy rate for the nonfranchised hotels in Scottsbluff was listed between 65 percent to 85 percent with the weighted average of 84 percent. The annual occupancy rate for the franchised hotels in Scottsbluff was listed between 50 percent to 85 percent with the weighted average of 73 percent. Weighted averages are based on the number of rooms.

#### 8.14.3.1.8 Apartments

Two apartment complexes were identified by a 1983 survey of apartments or rental unit complexes of ten or more units, to exist within Scottsbluff. These complexes contained 98 units of which 10 apartments were vacant.

Based on the survey data, one complex offered only furnished studio apartments, with a monthly rent of \$85 and no deposit required. The complex offered a month-to-month lease, with no rental increases having occurred within the past 5 years.

#### 8.14.3.1.9 Campgrounds

One campground was identified by a 1983 survey to exist in Scotts Bluff County. The campground contained 75 spaces of which 32 spaces were vacant resulting in a vacancy rate of 29 percent.

Rental costs on a daily basis were \$12, on a weekly basis \$50, and on a monthly basis, \$125. No deposit fees are required.

The campground can accommodate campers, trailers, and motor homes with a mobile home length limitation of 40 feet.

At the present time no expansion plans are anticipated.

#### 8.14.3.1.10 Housing Finance

The adjacent cities of Scottsbluff and Gering, Nebraska are treated as a single financial center. The influence of the lenders in these twin communities is felt over a 50 to 75-mile radius. The combined population of Scottsbluff/Gering is in excess of 20,000, and there is a relatively large number of institutions (13) within these cities. Of this number, four are savings and loan institutions, six are industrial/commercial banks, and three are listed as savings companies.

Scottsbluff/Gering housing finance, in addition to its predominant Scotts Bluff County activity, is involved in Morrill and Box Butte counties with occasional loans in Banner, Kimball, and Sioux counties. Several of the lenders have transacted business in more distant locations, namely Wyoming. No mortgage companies maintain local offices. There are four small banks located in communities within Scotts Bluff County, three of which are involved in housing finance. These add slightly to the capability of Scotts Bluff

County, but represent very little in comparison to the resources concentrated in Scottsbluff/Gering.

Of the 13 institutions, 10 were surveyed. It was determined, however, that the 10 respondents included all of the largest lenders, so the sample size in terms of financial activity might approach 90 percent, according to local bankers.

The diversity and extent of housing finance in Scottsbluff/Gering is unusual. One savings and loan has extensive western and even national affiliations, either for origination, servicing, or mortgage placement. Its mortgage portfolio is \$240 million. Another savings and loan is one of 60 branches statewide. One of the savings companies is now a wholly-owned subsidiary of the largest industrial bank in the area, while another has a business affiliation with a leading mortgage company.

The following residential real estate loan data summarize recent trends and levels of involvement in Tables 8.14.3-7, 8.14.3-8, and 8.14.3-9.

Table 8.14.3-7

FIRST MORTGAGES  
SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING  
1981 AND 1983

Year	No. of Transactions			Dollar Value		
	Conventional	FHA	VA	Conventional	FHA	VA
1981	94	101	99	\$3,340,800	\$3,694,600	\$3,369,800
1983 <sup>a</sup>	209	236	215	\$7,708,950	\$8,500,680	\$7,750,620

Note: a - Through mid-July.

All dollars are in current dollars.

Source: 1983 Field Survey.

An estimated 14 percent of the above mortgages were placed under the State of Nebraska Mortgage Fund Assistance Program. At various times since program inception, at least half of the lenders have written such mortgages, although use of the program has been declining, in part due to the conventional mortgage market now being more competitive. In the first year, 1980, there were 108 Nebraska Mortgage Fund loans in Scotts Bluff County, representing \$3,390,000. In 1981, the participation in the Fund declined to 20 loans for \$629,000 while in 1982, there were 15 loans for \$240,000.



Table 8.14.3-8

SECOND MORTGAGE HOUSING ACTIVITY  
SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING  
1981 AND 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Transactions</u>	<u>Dollar Value</u>
1981	345	\$3,000,000
1983a	370	\$4,300,000

Note: a - Through mid-July.

All dollars are in current dollars.

Source: 1983 Field Survey.

Table 8.14.3-9

CONSTRUCTION/BUILDER/SHORT-TERM LOANS  
SCOTTSBLUFF/GERING  
1981 AND 1983

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of Transactions</u>	<u>Dollar Value</u>
1981	65	\$4,810,000
1983a	370	\$7,980,000

Note: a - Through mid-July.

All dollars are in current dollars.

Source: 1983 Field Survey.

The interest rates on first mortgages, including current FHA/VA, range from 13 to 15 percent with 15 to 30-year terms most common. On second mortgages, 14 percent to 15 percent is the norm, with terms varying from 1 to 15 years between lenders. Construction loan rates are in the 15 to 16-percent range, with most in 6 to 12-month terms, but ranging to 30 months in one bank and 18 months in another. Adjustable rate loans with 3 to 5-year balloon payments are a rapidly growing trend.

In summarizing these data, the following must be considered. The first mortgage market, with a few exceptions, appears to be healthy and expanding. The second mortgage market is growing, but largely through the involvement of three of the institutions. With most of the other lenders, second mortgages are declining. Construction borrowing has declined to a low level, without a great deal of new building activity occurring. It can be inferred that with limited construction and a growing first mortgage market, that the majority of the first mortgages have been for existing homes.

Of the ten respondent institutions, four are the largest and most active. One of these, a savings and loan, is the most involved in real estate loans, followed by the largest of the commercial banks.

At least one-third of the respondents make mobile home loans, although it appears that they do so with increasing reluctance. This follows the trend within the Area of Site Influence.

Mortgage placement has varied in the past 5 years, from a predominant pattern of portfolio expansion, to a strong movement into the secondary market. Placement has been through GNMA, FNMA, several large private investment companies in the west and midwest, and other sources. Three of the lenders still maintain all of their mortgage paper in portfolio.

#### 8.14.3.2 Projected Baseline

Population growth constitutes the basis and scope of housing supply for the projected baseline. The population projections and geographic allocations generated in Section 2.0 are formulated on a community basis, employing spatial allocation techniques. Baseline population growth is estimated on the basis of the historic growth in the community relative to the historic and projected growth rates for the county. The housing resource analyses are therefore presented at the community level.

##### 8.14.3.2.1 City of Scottsbluff

The city of Scottsbluff is expected to experience a housing supply growth rate of 4.8 percent from 1983 to 1992, increasing from 6,042 dwelling units to 6,335 dwelling units. Annual percent increases for total year-round housing units range from a low of 0.4 percent (to be experienced from 1991-1992) to a high of 0.7 percent (to be experienced from 1983-1984). Seventy-five percent of the housing stock is projected to be single-family homes, 21 percent multifamily, and 4 percent mobile homes. The temporary accommodations supply of 278 franchised hotel rooms, 226 nonfranchised hotel rooms and 75 campground spaces will remain constant through the baseline future period.

Table 8.14.3-10 summarizes the baseline projections.

##### 8.14.3.2.2 City of Gering

The city of Gering is expected to experience a housing supply growth rate of 30.6 percent from 1983 to 1992, increasing from 3,124 dwelling units to 4,080 dwelling units. Annual percent increases for total year-round housing units range from a low of 2.7 percent (to be experienced from 1990 to 1991) to a high of 3.2 percent (to be experienced from 1983 to 1985). Eighty-one percent of the housing stock is projected to be single-family homes, 15 percent multifamily, and 4 percent mobile homes. The temporary accommodations supply of 71 nonfranchised hotel rooms will remain constant through the baseline future period.

Table 8.14.3-11 summarizes the baseline projections.

Table 8.14.3-10

BASELINE FORECAST  
HOUSING SUPPLY  
SCOTTSBLUFF  
1983-1992

Housing Type	1983-1984				1984-1985			1985-1986				
	1983	1984	Change	% Change	1985	Change	% Change	1986	Change	% Change		
Single Family	4,531	4,563	32	0.7	4,591	28	0.6	4,616	25	0.5		
Multi-family	1,269	1,278	9	0.7	1,285	7	0.5	1,293	8	0.6		
Mobile Home	242	243	1	0.4	245	2	0.8	246	1	0.4		
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	6,042	6,084	42	0.7	6,121	37	0.6	6,155	34	0.6		
	1986-1987				1987-1988			1988-1989			1989-1990	
	1987	Change	% Change	1988	Change	% Change	1989	Change	% Change	1990	Change	% Change
Single Family	4,641	25	0.5	4,663	22	0.5	4,688	25	0.5	4,710	22	0.5
Multi-family	1,299	6	0.5	1,306	7	0.5	1313	7	0.5	1,319	6	0.5
Mobile Home	248	2	0.8	249	1	0.4	250	1	0.4	251	1	0.4
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	6,188	33	0.5	6,218	30	0.5	6,251	33	0.5	6,280	29	0.5
	1990-1991			1991-1992								
	1991	Change	% Change	1992	Change	% Change						
Single Family	4,733	23	0.5	4,751	18	0.4						
Multi-family	1,325	6	0.5	1,330	5	0.4						
Mobile Home	252	1	0.4	254	2	0.8						
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	6,310	30	0.5	6,335	25	0.4						

Source: Table 2.3.3-4 and Appendix A.3.

Table 8.14.3-11

BASELINE FORECAST  
HOUSING SUPPLY  
GERING  
1983-1992

Housing Type	1983-1984				1984-1985			1985-1986				
	1983	1984	Change	% Change	1985	Change	% Change	1986	Change	% Change		
Single Family	2,530	2,611	81	3.2	2,693	82	3.1	2,776	83	3.1		
Multi- family	469	483	14	3.0	499	16	3.3	514	15	3.0		
Mobile Home	125	129	4	3.2	133	4	3.1	137	4	3.0		
TOTAL Year- Round Housing Units:	3,124	3,223	99	3.2	3,325	102	3.2	3,427	102	3.1		
	1986-1987			1987-1988			1988-1989			1989-1990		
	1987	Change	% Change	1988	Change	% Change	1989	Change	% Change	1990	Change	% Change
Single Family	2,859	83	3.0	2,948	89	3.1	3,033	85	2.9	3,125	92	3.0
Multi- family	529	15	2.9	546	17	3.2	562	16	2.9	579	17	3.0
Mobile Home	141	4	2.9	145	4	2.8	150	5	3.4	154	4	2.7
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	3,529	102	3.0	3,639	110	3.1	3,745	106	2.9	3,858	113	3.0
	1990-1991			1991-1992								
	1991	Change	% Change	1992	Change	% Change						
Single Family	3,210	85	2.7	3,305	95	3.0						
Multi- family	594	5	2.6	612	18	3.0						
Mobile Home	159	5	3.2	163	4	2.5						
TOTAL Year-Round Housing Units:	3,963	105	2.7	4,080	117	3.0						

Source: Table 2.3.3-4 and Appendix A.3.

### 8.14.3.3 Project Impacts

Population growth constitutes the basis and scope of housing supply for the proposed project. The population projections and geographic allocations generated in Section 2.0 are formulated on a community basis, employing spatial allocation techniques. Project-related population is allocated to communities on the basis of proximity to job sites. The housing resource analyses are therefore presented at the community level.

#### 8.14.3.3.1 City of Scottsbluff

As illustrated in Table 8.14.3-12, the city of Scottsbluff will experience demand for housing as a result of the project from 1986 through 1989. The projected vacancies can satisfy the project demand for all housing types for all years except mobile homes in 1988. The net demand or impact of 2 mobile homes in 1988 will require an additional supply of the same amount during this growth cycle. During the decline cycle, from 1989 through 1990, the excess supply or impact of 2 units can be absorbed by the projected baseline growth in mobile homes.

#### 8.14.3.3.2 City of Gering

As illustrated in Table 8.14.3-13, the city of Gering will experience demand for housing as a result of the project from 1986 through 1989. The projected vacancies can satisfy the project demand for all housing types during these years, thereby requiring no increases in supply.

### 8.14.3.4 Mitigative Measures

Potential mitigation or preventive measures to be considered are identified below. Each measure identifies the party responsible to implement the mitigation, but not necessarily the party paying for the measure.

- o Housing demand forecasts should be produced and widely distributed within the public domain (providing buyer profile for type, size, price range, amenities, etc.). This information will be effective in estimating projected needs by type and amount and should be released and/or implemented 12 months or a building season prior to construction start-up and updated when a major change in conditions occurs. The agency responsible for implementing this mitigation is the Air Force.
- o Continuous monthly forecasting and monitoring of housing demand and housing starts during the growth cycle. This mitigation will be effective in estimating projected needs by type and amount and should assist the public and private sectors to react accordingly utilizing the best available information. The parties responsible for implementing this mitigation measure are the Air Force and appropriate public agencies.

Table 8.14.3-12

PROJECT IMPACTS  
NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHANGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF  
1984-1992

Housing Type	1984				1985				1984-1985				1986				1985-1986			
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>
Single Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Year- Round Units:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Type	1987				1986-1987				1988				1989				1988-1989			
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>
Single Family	6	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	7	0	0	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	4	0	0	0	15	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
TOTAL Year- Round Units:	17	0	0	0	61	2	2	0	2	2	0	0	46	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	3	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 8.14.3-12, Continued, Page 2 of 2  
PROJECT IMPACTS, NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHANGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF SCOTTSBLUFF  
1984-1992

Housing Type	1990			1989-1990			1991			1990-1991			1992			1991-1992		
	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>1</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>
Single Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Year- Round Units:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Notes: 1 Temporary Accommodations includes hotel/motel rooms and campground spaces.  
2 Project Demand is defined as total housing needs as induced by the project.  
3 Net demand is defined as demand less net vacancy (net vacancy equals gross vacancy minus frictional vacancy).  
4 Required supply is defined as increases in supply from growth cycle conditions of the project.  
5 Excess supply may result from the decline cycle conditions of the project when vacancies exceed projected baseline growth as shown in Table 8.14.3-10.

Table 8.14.3-13

PROJECT IMPACTS  
NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHARGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF GERING  
1984-1992

Housing Type	1984					1984-1985					1985-1986				
	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>
Single Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0			
Multifamily	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0			
Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0			
TOTAL Year- Round Units:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	99	0	0	0			
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0			

Housing Type	1987					1986-1987					1987-1988					1988-1989				
	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project <sup>2</sup> Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Required Supply <sup>4</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>
Single Family	3	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	9	0	0	0								
Multifamily	3	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	9	0	0	0								
Mobile Home	2	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	5	0	0	0								
TOTAL Year- Round Units:	8	0	0	0	30	0	0	0	23	0	0	0								
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	3	0	0	0								



TABLE 8.14.3-13, Continued, Page 2 of 2  
PROJECT IMPACTS, NET ANNUAL HOUSING DEMAND AND REQUIRED CHANGES IN SUPPLY  
CITY OF GERING  
1984-1992

Housing Type	1990			1989-1990			1991			1990-1991			1992			1991-1992		
	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>	Project Demand <sup>2</sup>	Net Demand <sup>3</sup>	Excess Supply <sup>5</sup>
Single Family	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multifamily	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile Home	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL Year-Round Units:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Accommodations <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Notes: 1 Temporary Accommodations includes hotel/motel rooms and campground spaces.  
2 Project Demand is defined as total housing needs as induced by the project.  
3 Net demand is defined as demand less net vacancy (net vacancy equals gross vacancy minus frictional vacancy).  
4 Required supply is defined as increases in supply from growth cycle conditions of the project.  
5 Excess supply may result from decline cycle conditions of the project when vacancies exceed projected baseline growth as shown in Table 8.14.3-11.

#### **8.14.4     Regional Recreation**

Scotts Bluff County has one national wildlife refuge (North Platte), two state recreation areas (Lake Minatare and Wildcat Hills), and one state wildlife management area (Nine Mile Creek). These areas are discussed in Section 10.1.

#### **8.14.5     Transportation - Road Network**

An overview of the regional roadway network appears in Section 10.5.

Consideration was given to the project-related transportation impact on both the population centers and the rural portions of Scotts Bluff County. Based on available information, it became apparent that the countywide rural road network associated with the Launch Facility modifications needed detailed study. Population and associated traffic increases for population centers, including Scottsbluff, Gering, Mitchell, Morrill, Terrytown, and Lyman were small and did not warrant detailed study.

##### **8.14.5.1   Baseline Description**

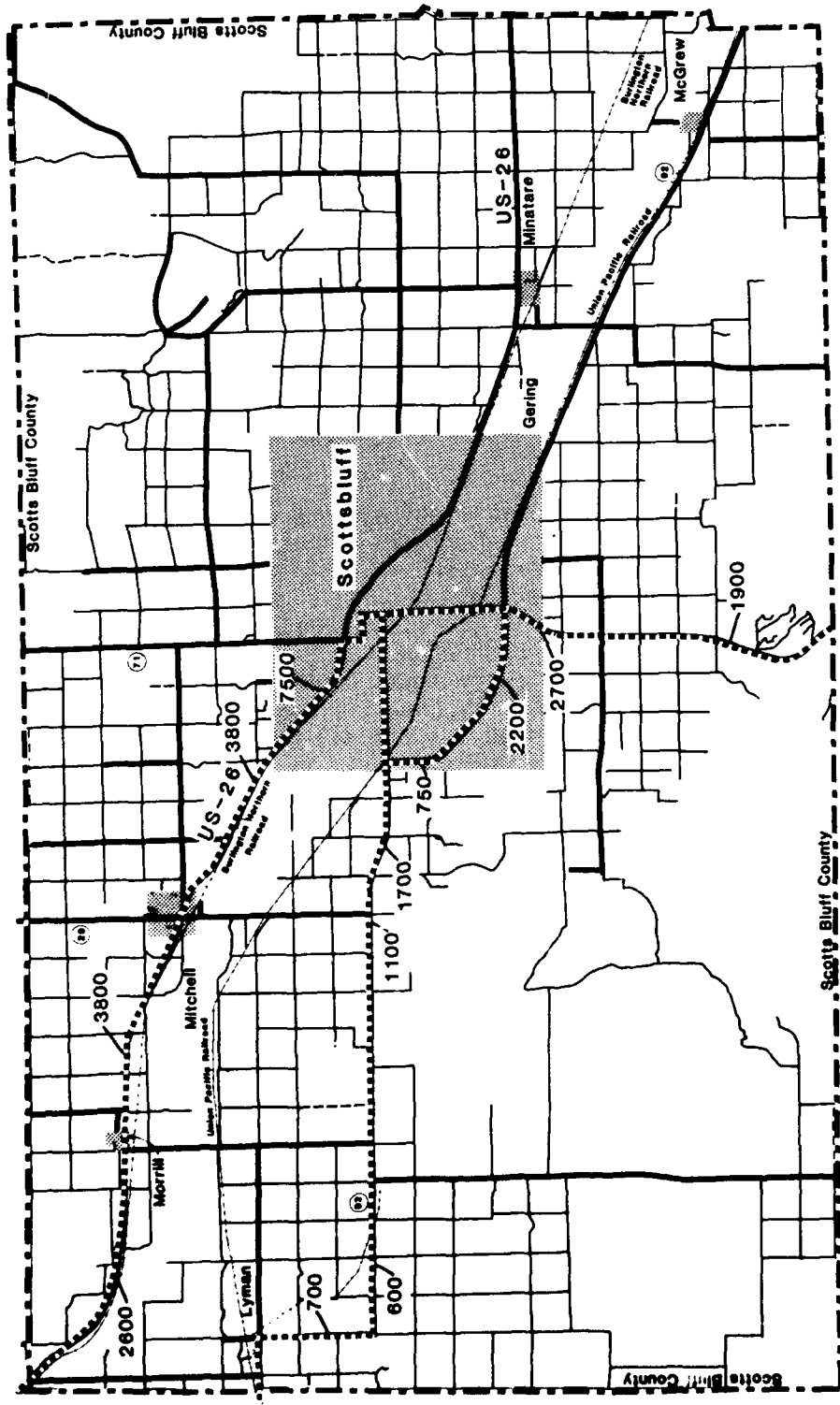
U.S. 26 (Federal-Aid Primary) cuts diagonally across the county serving the city of Scottsbluff and other population centers along the North Platte River (Figure 10.5.1-1). State Highways 29 and 92 (Federal-Aid Primaries) parallel U.S. 26, providing access to the City of Gering and to areas south of the North Platte River. State Highway 71 (Federal-Aid Primary) accommodates north-south traffic to and through the Scottsbluff-Gering area. The above routes perform as arterials, while key county roads serve as collectors, as shown in Figure 10.5.1-2, National Highway Functional Classification. A grid pattern of low-type paved and gravel roads serves the valley with a few routes providing access to hilly areas within the county.

Although there are no transporter/erector vehicle routes in Scotts Bluff County, certain roads may be used for construction and operational activities during project deployment. These roads and their current total traffic volumes are depicted in Figure 8.14.5-1.

##### **8.14.5.2   Projected Baseline**

Specific consideration was given to agricultural harvest operations. Data from an appropriate permanent traffic counter, located in an area subject to harvest operations, were carefully studied. The Wyoming Highway Department operated a continuous automatic traffic recorder at station 190, on Wyoming State Highway 154 near Veteran in Goshen County.

Station 190 had an average daily traffic (ADT) of 402. This is higher than the ADT figure generally found on the rural roads evaluated for this study. The effect of the November harvest is evident when comparing 1982, October and November traffic data. For example, the October ADT was 445 and the November ADT traffic was 450. However, the peak day in October was only 656 compared to a peak day in November of 1,013. Records show that the peak day was Saturday, November 6. The volume on Friday, November 5, was 875 and the volume on Sunday, November 7, was 757. The peak day volume was 2.5 times the ADT.



LEGEND

- Major Highways
- Local Collector Roads
- Local and Unpaved Roads
- Primitive Roads
- Project-Related Roads
- 100 Average Daily Traffic
- Population Center

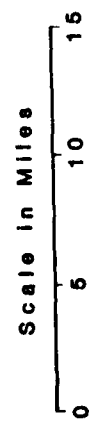


FIGURE 8.14.5-1 SCOTTS BLUFF COUNTY PROJECT-RELATED ROADS AND 1983 ESTIMATED TRAFFIC VOLUMES

A further examination was made of the highest hourly volumes at this station. Roadways are normally designed for the 30th to 50th highest hourly traffic volumes. The chart below shows the range of the high hourly volumes.

Highest Hour of the Year (Ranking)	Hourly Traffic Volume (Vehs)	Percentage of ADT
1st	82	20.4%
10th	65	16.2%
20th	63	15.7%
30th	60	14.9%
40th	58	14.4%
50th	55	13.7%

An appraisal of these data indicates the following:

- o The highest daily volume associated with harvest may be considerably higher (possible by a factor of 2.5) than the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes range from 15 to 20 percent of the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes are well within the capacity of a 2-lane rural road.
- o Special consideration should be given to the traffic associated with harvest operations. The agricultural vehicles are heavy, bulky, and slow-moving. The effect of these vehicles on traffic operations is greater than their absolute numbers would indicate.

Similar relationships between peak harvest traffic and ADT can be expected in the other counties within the Area of Site Influence.

Baseline (without the project) average daily traffic volumes on all project-related roads in Scotts Bluff County, were estimated for the peak construction year and the operational period. The peak year of construction in rural areas will depend upon the phasing of Launch Facility-related construction. Based on available information, it was assumed that 1988 would be the peak construction year for traffic utilizing Scotts Bluff County. Therefore 1988 was used for the baseline analysis. In addition, 1992 was assumed to be 2 years after the project operational phase would begin. Thus, 1992 was also used in the baseline analysis.

The 1988 baseline average daily traffic volumes for project-related roads in Scotts Bluff County were estimated by applying average annual growth rates to the existing 1983 average daily traffic volumes. These growth rates were based upon a review of previous traffic trends and discussions with Wyoming and Nebraska state highway officials. Average annual growth rates by road classification are summarized below:

Rural Interstates	4.0 percent
Rural State Highways	2.5 percent
County Roads	1.0 percent

From a capacity standpoint, all 1988 estimated baseline average daily traffic volumes on project-related roads in the county would remain low and would be well within the capacity of the existing roadways. For example, 1988 baseline average daily traffic for links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 2,150 to 3,050, an increase ranging from 250 to 350 over existing 1983 volumes. The highest 1988 estimated baseline traffic volumes in the county would be 8,490 average daily traffic for portions of U.S. Route 26, a figure still well below this roadway's capacity volume. For county roads, the 1988 estimated baseline volumes are well within the capacity of the existing roadways.

To estimate baseline average daily traffic volumes in the county for the projected operational year, the average annual growth rates were applied to 1983 traffic volumes through 1992. All 1992 estimated average daily traffic volumes for roadways within the county were again well within the capacity of those roadways to accommodate the increased volumes. For example, 1992 baseline average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 would range from 2,370 to 3,370. The highest 1992 estimated baseline average daily traffic volumes in the county would be 9,360 on portions of U.S. Route 26, still well below this roadway's capacity. Baseline 1992 volumes on county roads would again fall far below any of these volumes and are well within the capacity of the existing roadways.

For physical condition of roadways within the county, it was assumed that Minuteman transporter/erector routes would continue to be used and roadway condition would remain essentially unchanged with the current level of maintenance.

#### 8.14.5.3 Project Impacts

Traffic volumes on project-related roads in Scotts Bluff County were forecasted for 1988, the county's peak project construction year. It is estimated that project-related traffic volumes during peak Launch Facility modifications will be about 120 vehicles per day including heavy trucks. While this represents a substantial daily traffic increase on the rural road system, the resulting traffic volumes will be below the capacity of the roadways.

For example, under the project the 1988 estimated average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 2,270 to 3,170, still well below the minimum capacity for a 2-lane road. If the project were implemented, the highest 1988 estimated traffic volumes in the county would be 8,610 average daily traffic which would occur on portions of U.S. Route 26. This volume would also be well below the roadway's capacity to accommodate maximum traffic volumes. For county roads, 1988 project-related traffic volumes are well below the capacity of the roadways.

Scotts Bluff County has no transporter/erector routes. However, roads within the County will experience an increase in truck traffic due to transporter erector road construction in neighboring counties. Locations in the aggregate pits and probable haul roads are shown on Figure 3.10.6-3 (inclosed as a fold out in the back of this report).

These project-related roads will be adequately maintained. Maintenance activities associated with these other project-related roads may result in short term traffic delays.

#### 8.14.5.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures for roads are offered for consideration.

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**BANNER COUNTY  
NEBRASKA**

## **9.0 SOCIAL PROFILE AND SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS FOR BANNER COUNTY, NEBRASKA JURISDICTIONS**

The 1980 population of Banner County is reported by the Census Bureau as 918. By 1992, without the project, this population is expected to decrease to 910. No immigration to Banner County is expected to occur as a result of the project.

Principal impacts which will occur in Banner County are transportation related. Adverse impacts from increased traffic volumes and from road upgrade construction will occur during years of peak project activity, 1988 to 1989. A corresponding increase in county staffing demands for maintenance activities would take place.

### **9.1 Banner County Government**

#### **9.1.1 General Government**

##### **9.1.1.1 Baseline Description**

###### **9.1.1.1.1 Organization and Administration**

The Board of County Commissioners oversees the administration of County government. The Board consists of three Commissioners elected at large to 4-year terms. The present Board is made up of one fourth-term Commissioner and two first-term Commissioners. The Board meets the first and third Mondays of each month from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

In addition to the Board of Commissioners, the following are elected officials: County Clerk/Assessor, Treasurer, Sheriff, and School Superintendent. The County Attorney, County Surveyor, and Highway Superintendent are appointed. There have been no recent organizational changes nor are any contemplated in the future.

###### **9.1.1.1.2 Staffing**

Staffing for Banner County has been set at 21 persons for a substantial period of time and is likely to remain at this level in the foreseeable future. The bulk of County staffing consists of 11 Road Department employees, with the other 10 persons distributed among the remaining departments.

###### **9.1.1.1.3 Capital Facilities**

Banner County capital facilities consist of the County Administration Building (built in 1957) and the county shops. The total area of the Administration Building, including the basement, is 8,500 square feet. Building uses include office space; vault space; storage; a Commissions, jury, and meeting room; the Judge's chambers; courtroom; and public seating. Approximately 3,150 square feet are dedicated to administrative purposes. This space is considered adequate for existing and future County needs.

The Banner County shop contains 3,840 square feet, of which all but the 112 square feet foreman's office is shop space. In addition to this shop, the County also has a 600-square foot chemical storage building, and a 2,400-



square foot equipment storage building. Shop space is considered presently adequate to meet County needs.

#### 9.1.1.1.4 Capital Equipment

Banner County capital equipment consists of some 35 vehicles and pieces of major equipment, almost all of which are used by the road maintenance crews. Equipment condition is rated fair to good, but most pieces receive heavy use and low revenues often prevent timely replacement.

#### 9.1.1.2 Projected Baseline

##### 9.1.1.2.1 Organization and Administration

Under projected baseline conditions, Banner County population is predicted to remain stable at approximately 910 persons through 1992. At present there are no plans to change the organization or administration of Banner County government, and with a stable population, no changes are predicted over the analysis period for projected baseline.

##### 9.1.1.2.2 Staffing

With stable population predicted in Banner County over the analysis period, no staffing changes are predicted for Banner County government under projected baseline conditions.

##### 9.1.1.2.3 Capital Facilities

With no change in population projected over the analysis period, and no present plans to alter or add any capital facilities, no changes in capital facility inventory or usage are likely from 1983 to 1992 under projected baseline in Banner County.

##### 9.1.1.2.4 Capital Equipment

Under projected baseline conditions, plans are presently in place for replacement of certain Banner County road maintenance capital equipment. Although raising sufficient capital for replacement of equipment is difficult, the County is expected to replace certain pieces during the analysis period 1983 to 1992.

#### 9.1.1.3 Project Impacts

##### 9.1.1.3.1 Organization and Administration

No increases in population are predicted for Banner County during 1983 to 1992 as a result of the project. Road maintenance impacts are expected, but will not require any changes in organization or administration of Banner County government.

##### 9.1.1.3.2 Staffing

No increases or changes in officials or administrative staff are expected to result from the project. However, additional road maintenance may require additional road crew staffing.

#### 9.1.1.3.3 Capital Facilities

Under the project, capital facilities owned by Banner County are expected to remain adequate throughout the analysis period. Additional capital equipment requirements are not expected to affect shop space since newer equipment generally requires less maintenance and has less down time.

#### 9.1.1.3.4 Capital Equipment

With the exception of capital equipment for road maintenance, the project will not alter inventory usage or replacement schedule of County equipment. Additional capital equipment may be required for increased road maintenance as a result of the project. See Appendix A.7.2 for details.

#### 9.1.1.4 Mitigative Measures

Impacts due to the project on Banner County general government were all predicted to negligible. Therefore, for general government, no mitigative measures are required.

### 9.1.2 Law Enforcement

#### 9.1.2.1 Baseline Description

Law enforcement in Banner County is provided by the County Sheriff's Department. The Department has the Sheriff as its only employee at a salary of \$1,250 per month. The Sheriff has a 1978 model patrol car, scheduled for replacement in 1984. The Sheriff's offices are located in the County Courthouse in Harrisburg and consist of 1 room of about 250 square feet used by the Sheriff and a single jail cell used only to hold prisoners on days when they appear in court in Harrisburg. Otherwise, Banner County prisoners are housed in the Scotts Bluff County Jail, 20 miles north in Gering.

#### 9.1.2.2 Projected Baseline

The population of Banner County is projected to remain at existing levels through 1992. Therefore, no changes in the staff, vehicles, or space of the Banner County Sheriff's Department are projected.

#### 9.1.2.3 Project Impacts

The Sheriff reports that he presently spends two to three days a month investigating accidents. Most of the accidents investigated by the Sheriff are on county roads as accidents on state highways are more commonly investigated by the Nebraska State Patrol, especially if they involve greater damages or bodily injury. Projections for vehicle miles traveled in Banner County in 1988/89 indicate an increase in vehicle miles travelled attributable to the project of about 22 percent. Assuming that accidents increase at the same rate as vehicle miles travelled, it could be estimated that traffic accidents would also increase 22 percent, as would the amount of time the Sheriff spends investigating such accidents. This would translate into about one day per month increased workload for the Sheriff.

#### 9.1.2.4 Mitigative Measures

The impact from the project described in the preceding section is so low as to require no mitigative measures.

#### 9.1.3 Justice System - County Court and County District Court

##### 9.1.3.1 Baseline Description

The respective jurisdictions of the Banner County Court and Banner County District Court follow the statutory mandates set out in Section 7.1.3.1. The county lies within the Nineteenth Judicial District and its courts are located in Harrisburg, the county seat.

What is most notable about the Banner County Court system is that it supports a negligible criminal caseload, and a substantial number of traffic cases. In fact, from January 1975 through June 1982, 95 percent of the 4,203 new cases filed involved traffic violations. An equal percentage of all dispositions were also represented by traffic cases. Of all new filings during this period, there were only 21 nontraffic misdemeanors or ordinance violations and a mere 12 preliminary hearings for felony cases. In terms of traffic case disposition, a remarkably small number of cases are typically disputed by the defendant. In fact, in the past three and one-half years, only seven cases have gone to trial. Moreover, by a ratio of almost 6:1, defendants opt to enter a guilty plea by paying their fine by mail and sparing the Court the time and expense of scheduling courtroom appearances. In the Banner County District Court, only 4 of the 75 new cases filed during the same period were criminal in nature. Moreover, there were no criminal cases filed with the Court from 1978 through 1982.

These statistics are rather easily explained by the absence of incorporated cities in the county and a resulting paucity of business. The principal explanation for the relatively heavy caseload of traffic offenses is the presence of State Highway 71, which bisects the county into approximate east and west halves. State Highway 71 is the principal access route to Interstate 80 for areas to the north, such as the more populous and commercially active Scotts Bluff County. Additionally, the same highway connects the cities of Kimball, Gering, and Scottsbluff, via Banner County. There is a fairly high level of enforcement of speed limits in the county. Furthermore, since weight load limits on trucks are also actively enforced, a significant number of these violations are processed as well.

The Courts are staffed by a clerk and two full-time deputy clerks. The clerk also serves as Associate County Judge and County Assessor. The clerk is currently paid \$7,525 per year by the County for clerical services. In addition, he is paid by the state for his services as clerk of the County Court and as a part-time Associate County Judge. Each of the deputies currently is paid \$4.90 per hour for a 40-hour week. Also on the County payroll is the County Attorney, who has held that position since January 1949. Since there are no attorneys who live in Banner County, a statute authorized the County Board to contract with an outside lawyer for legal services. The present County Attorney has a private law practice in Scottsbluff and his office staff and certain facilities are provided to the County Court system through his personal services contract. His current annual

salary is \$6,950. Additional County-paid expenses are budgeted at approximately \$1,400. It should be noted, however, that the County Attorney estimates that only about 10 percent of these expenses are attributable to criminal cases.

Over the past 3 years, operating expenses for both courts have grown dramatically. For example, in fiscal year 1980 to 1981, the clerk of the District Court spent a total of \$74, which was spent entirely on supplies. Two years later, the County approved an increase to \$2,300, largely due to prospective juror and witness fees. Expenses for the County Court have shown a comparably sizable increase, primarily due to fees for witnesses and Court-appointed counsel. These two items did not even appear on the 1980-81 and 1981-82 budgets.

The Banner County District Court is presided over by one judge, who also presides over the Kimball County District Court. The current salary figure is \$44,691 and this amount represents an increase of 13 percent over his salary in 1980. All salaries of District Court judges are borne by the State and set at a level equal to 92.5 percent of the salary paid to justices of the Nebraska Supreme Court. The salaries of the two county judges are also paid by the State at a level determined by the Legislature. The judges are currently paid \$41,068, which represents an increase of 44 percent over the salary paid in 1980. The two Banner County judges also preside over the County Court in Kimball County.

The judicial system's facilities and equipment are well-matched to its caseload. All facilities are located in the Banner County Courthouse in Harrisburg. The Courthouse was built in 1957 and includes one courtroom (used for both the County Court and the District Court) and an office for system personnel. The office serves as the judges' chambers when needed, as well as the regular office of the clerk and his staff.

#### 9.1.3.2 Projected Baseline

Demands on the Banner County criminal justice system seem to be dependent on circumstances in surrounding areas. Nothing in Banner County's foreseeable future is likely to change the current patterns in its criminal justice system. However, if the energy industry continues its revival in Kimball County, State Highway 71 is likely to see a commensurate increase in traffic, due to the transportation and commercial resources available in Scottsbluff. Although such an increase would affect the caseload in at least the County Court, it would also add significantly to County revenues.

#### 9.1.3.3 Project Impacts

Due to the immigration projected for the general region, a slight increase in traffic on State Highway 71 is expected as a result of the project. Accordingly, a slight increase in traffic violations, such as speeding and weight load excesses, is also expected. Although this result would increase the caseload of the County Court, it would not create a significant impact on the system for two reasons. First, the system is not currently operating at full capacity and could easily absorb the additional cases. Further, because traffic fines tend to be paid through the mail, the effect on the Court would be almost entirely clerical in nature.

#### **9.1.3.4 Mitigative Measures**

There are no mitigative measures required for the Banner County criminal justice system.

#### **9.1.4 Recreational Facilities**

##### **9.1.4.1 Baseline Description**

Banner County and the small unincorporated community of Harrisburg are almost exclusively rural in nature. They have no parks, special-use facilities, recreation facilities, or formal parks and recreation programming. There is no commercial recreation within the county. Most residents pursue outdoor recreation activities in contiguous counties. These include hunting, camping, hiking, and picnicking in Wildcat Hills, or playing golf at Bridgeport, Gering, or Scottsbluff.

The Banner County School District does open its athletic facilities to area residents on a limited basis. The school gymnasium is available to the public in the spring and winter for adult basketball and volleyball. These activities are limited to once a week. Residents may use the track and play softball on the football field provided this does not conflict with scheduled school activities. A school inventory shows one gymnasium, a multipurpose room, one wrestling room located in an accessory building, a lighted football field, and a cinder track.

##### **9.1.4.2 Projected Baseline**

The level of demand for recreational facilities is not predicted to change with the increased population, and no change in facilities is predicted.

##### **9.1.4.3 Project Impacts**

No population immigration is projected for Banner County. Therefore, no impacts are anticipated.

##### **9.1.4.4 Mitigative Measures**

No mitigative measures are needed because no impacts are anticipated.

#### **9.1.5 Library Facilities**

##### **9.1.5.1 Baseline Description**

There is no public library in Banner County. Library services are available through the Nebraska Books by Mail service operated by the Hastings, Nebraska Public Library under contract to the Nebraska Library Commission. This service is only available to residents of counties without other public library resources. Twenty-seven Banner County residents are on the Books by Mail mailing list, of whom 19 use the services regularly. Utilization statistics for the service are as shown in Table 9.1.5-1.

Table 9.1.5-1

BOOKS BY MAIL UTILIZATION  
BANNER COUNTY  
(1981-1983)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Books Borrowed</u>
1981	296
1981	387
1983 (January to June)	155

Source: Hastings Public Library, Hastings, Nebraska July 1983.

Books are selected and ordered from annually updated catalogs of available resources, including a special children's catalog and western heritage books that are mailed to users free of charge. There are approximately 800 books available by mail.

Additional library resources are available at the Harrisburg Public School Library, which is open to the public, though its primary function is to provide library resources in support of the public school curriculum.

9.1.5.2 Projected Baseline

Services to future county residents are expected to continue to be offered by the Nebraska Library Commission through the Books by Mail service. The level of demand for library services is not predicted to change. Existing Banner County residents do not place a high level of demand on existing services, and service provision is not projected to increase over a very small additional percentage of users of Books by Mail and the Harrisburg Public School Library.

9.1.5.3 Project Impacts

As no immigrant population is projected for Banner County, there will be no increases in demand for library services due to the project in Banner County.

9.1.5.4 Mitigative Measures

No impacts are projected for library services in Banner County, therefore no mitigative measures are suggested.

## 9.2 Other Jurisdictions - Education

### 9.2.1 Baseline Description

There is one school district in Banner County, Harrisburg Public School. Harrisburg is a Class III District which is defined to be any school district embracing territory having a population of more than 1,000 and less than 100,000 inhabitants that maintains both elementary and high school grades under the direction of a single school board (Figure 9.2.1-1).

#### 9.2.1.1 Students

Table 9.2.1-1 displays 10 years of historical fall enrollment data by grades K-6, 6-8, and 9-12. Kindergarten is not mandatory in Nebraska, but it is widely offered.

Table 9.2.1-1

TEN YEARS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL  
FALL ENROLLMENTS BY GRADE CATEGORY  
FOR BANNER COUNTY  
(1973-1982)

<u>Grade Category</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
K-6	97	98	95	99	82	74	77	100	99	106
7-8	40	45	46	47	33	28	26	24	31	28
9-12	72	83	76	95	85	79	77	70	58	53
TOTAL:	209	226	217	241	200	181	180	194	188	187

Source: Nebraska State Department of Education Records, Reports From County Superintendent of Schools, 1973-74 through 1982-83.

Overall, there was a 10-year enrollment decrease of 10.5 percent, a 5-year enrollment decrease of 6.5 percent, and a 1-year enrollment decrease of 0.5 percent (representing the net loss of 1 student). The steady decrease has been due to the trends in farming operations. With advanced technology and large machinery, farmers and ranchers are not hiring as many "hired hands" who would have brought their families to Banner County.

#### 9.2.1.2 Staffing

The number of full-time equivalent (FTE) classroom teachers and the pupil-to-teacher ratios are given in Table 9.2.1-2.

The lowest pupil-to-teacher ratio was in 1979 when the enrollment was also lowest out of the 4 years. The highest pupil-to-teacher ratio was in 1980 where the enrollment was also highest out of the 4 years.

The salary schedule for fall 1982, Harrisburg Public School, is provided in Table 9.2.1-3.

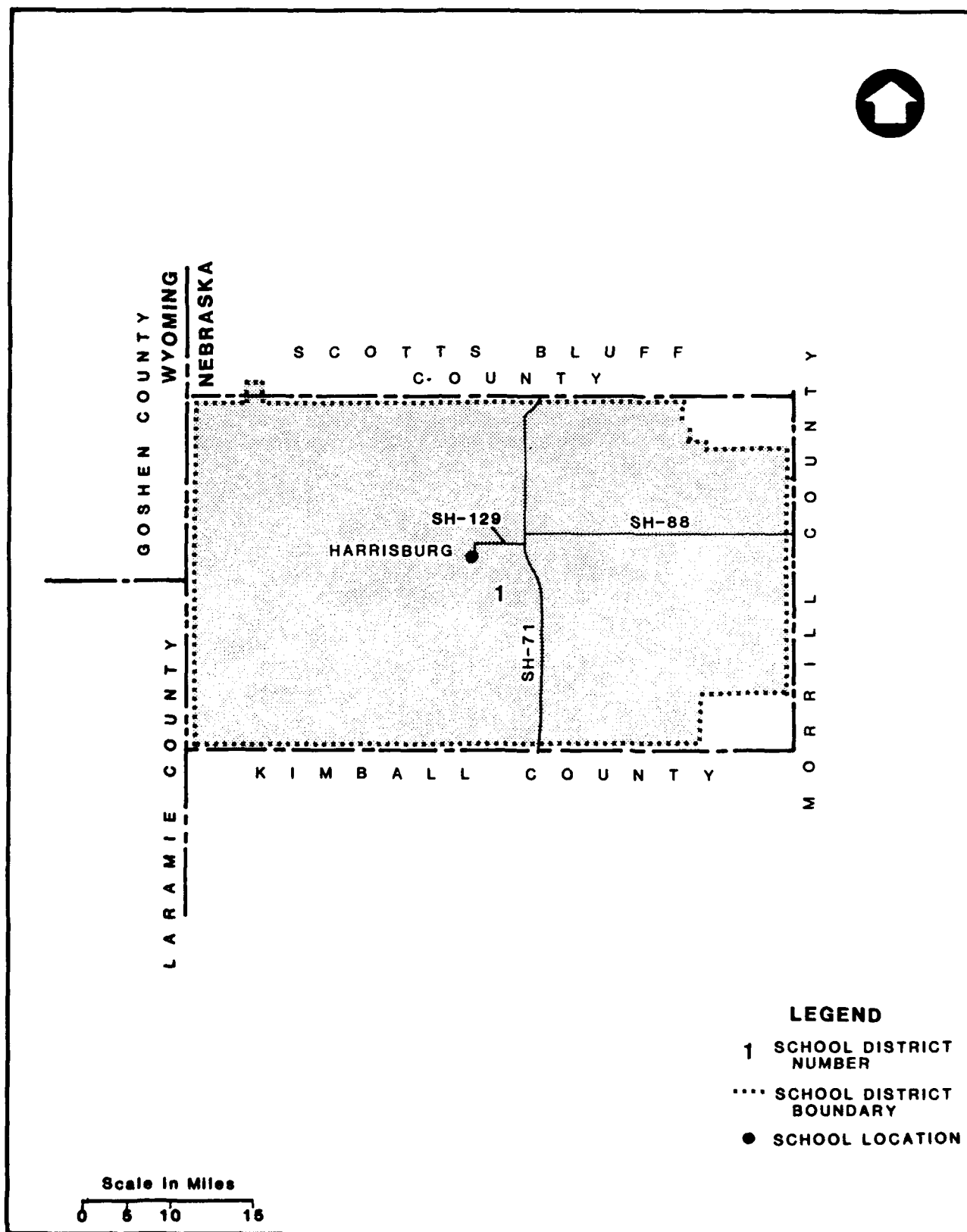


FIGURE 9.2.1-1 SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1, BANNER COUNTY



Table 9.2.1-2

FTE CLASSROOM TEACHERS AND  
PUPIL-TO-TEACHER RATIOS  
BANNER COUNTY  
1979-80 THROUGH 1982-83

	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
FTE Teachers	18.3	18.0	18.1	18.3
Pupil-to-Teacher Ratios	9.8	10.8	10.4	10.2

Note: Ratio expressed as 18.3 rather than 18.3:1.

Source: Nebraska Department of Education Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Schools, Reports from County Superintendents, 1979-80 through 1982-83.

Table 9.2.1-3

MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM 1982 SALARIES  
HARRISBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL

Preparation Level	Minimum Salary	Maximum Salary
BA	\$12,300	\$15,252
BA+ 9 units	12,823	16,267
BA+ 18 units	13,346	17,282
BA+ 27 units	13,868	18,296
MA	14,391	19,311
MA+ 9 units	14,914	19,834

Source: "Salaries Schedules and Fringe Benefits," 1982 Nebraska State Education Association.

The 1982 teacher salaries ranged from \$12,300 to \$19,834 at the Harrisburg Public School.

#### 9.2.1.3 Educational Services

##### 9.2.1.3.1 Special Education

In the 1982-83 school year there were 15 children who were diagnosed as handicapped in Banner County. These students received at least 3 hours or more of special education instruction. This special education instruction was contracted from the regional Educational Service Unit in Scottsbluff. The P.L.94-142 federal legislation required a special education student to be enrolled in the least restrictive environment so attempts have been made to mainstream the students into regular classrooms as much as possible.

##### 9.2.1.3.2 Gifted Programs

There is no formally defined gifted program in the school. However, enrichment opportunities are encouraged among all students.

##### 9.2.1.3.3 Nonpublic Education

There are no nonpublic schools in Banner County.

#### 9.2.1.4 Facilities

The school building in Harrisburg was built in 1957. It has been well maintained and is presently in need of no major renovations or remodeling. There are a total of 20 classrooms and a total available space of 46,000 square feet. Total available space includes space for general instruction, special instruction, support areas, and service areas.

Harrisburg Public School owns 13 school buses, and its bus routes encompass 725 square miles. The majority of the student body is bused into Harrisburg from rural areas. The buses are well maintained routinely and replaced periodically.

#### 9.2.1.5 Post-Secondary Education

A resident of Banner County can take courses by correspondence from the Division of Continuing Studies from the University of Nebraska. Chadron State College is the closest state college (approximately 120 miles north of Harrisburg). Western Nebraska State College is the closest junior college (approximately 20 miles north of Harrisburg). The Harrisburg Public School offers adult education classes to the community upon request.

### 9.2.2 Projected Baseline

#### 9.2.2.1 Students

Future enrollment trends were projected for the Harrisburg Public School, the only school in Banner County, by a mean survival ratio method used by the Nebraska Department of Education. This model projects enrollment over a 10-year period by adding the average change from grade to grade by increments

to the last enrollment in the initial grade. These projections were compared to the age cohort survival population projections and the projections were more moderate in the long range trends.

Table 9.2.2-1 displays the projected enrollments for the Harrisburg Public School.

This model projects an increase in 1987 of 27.8 percent and an increase of 62.0 percent in 1992. Broken down by grade category, a 43.4-percent increase is projected for elementary enrollments in 1987 and a 7.4-percent increase is projected for secondary enrollments in 1987. However, in 1992 these become a 61.3-percent increase for the elementary enrollments and a 63.0-percent increase for the secondary enrollments.

Projections used for study indicate that few families are expected to move into Banner County in the next several years. Because of this, these survival ratio model projections may be overstated. The enrollments are expected to continue to be around 200 students during the next 10 years.

#### 9.2.2.2 Staffing

Since it is assumed that enrollments will remain stable, it is also expected that the staffing needs will be similar for the next few years. In 1977 there were 18.3 FTE teachers at Harrisburg Public School.

#### 9.2.2.3 Educational Services

Because of the special nature of the educational services (special education and gifted programs), no baseline projections are made.

#### 9.2.2.4 Facilities

At one time there were 350 students enrolled at Harrisburg Public School. In 1982 there were 187 students. The peak enrollment, projected by the Nebraska Department of Education in 1992, is 303 students. An enrollment capacity computation which allows 100 square feet for elementary students, 125 square feet for junior high students, and 150 square feet for high school students, yields a building capacity of 368 students. It is anticipated that there will be no space problems at Harrisburg Public School in the next few years. However, this is not to say that there will be no special program space needs.

The fleet of buses is expected to operate as they have in the past, with good maintenance and replacement schedules.

#### 9.2.2.5 Post-Secondary Education

Because adult education enrollment is based upon specific requests in Banner County, it is difficult to project future trends.

Table 9.2.2-1

TEN YEARS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL  
FALL ENROLLMENT BASELINE PROJECTIONS  
BY GRADE CATEGORY  
FOR HARRISBURG PUBLIC SCHOOL  
(1983-1992)

<u>Grade Category</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1987</u>	<u>1988</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>
K-6 (1982 actual = 106)	111	116	137	148	152	162	164	167	181	171
7-8 (1982 actual = 28)	22	27	22	31	41	37	39	44	36	50
9-12 (1982 actual = 53)	60	53	55	55	46	59	65	70	81	82
TOTAL (1982 actual = 187)	193	196	214	234	239	258	268	281	298	303

Source: Nebraska Department of Education 1983 Projection Model, Mean Survival Ratio Method.

### **9.2.3 Project Impacts**

#### **9.2.3.1 Students**

Because no impact population is projected for Banner County, there will be no impact as a result of the project impacts.

#### **9.2.3.2 Staffing**

There will be no impact on teachers as a result of the project.

#### **9.2.3.3 Educational Services**

There will be no impact on educational services as a result of the project.

#### **9.2.3.4 Facilities**

There will be no impact in the areas of facilities and school buses in Banner County as a result of the project.

#### **9.2.3.5 Post-Secondary Education**

There will be no impact in the area of post-secondary education in Banner County as a result of the project.

### **9.2.4 Mitigative Measures**

Because there is no impact from the project for Banner County, no mitigative measures are described.

## **9.3 Special Districts - Fire Protection**

### **9.3.1 Baseline Description**

Most of Banner County is included in the Banner County Rural Fire District. A small corner of extreme northeast Banner County is in the McGrew Rural Fire District. The Banner County Fire District has 35 volunteers. The fire station in Harrisburg was constructed in 1969 and contains about 4,500 square feet including a meeting room. Equipment garaged there includes two "quick-attack" units, a combination "quick attack rescue" unit, a tanker, and an ambulance.

### **9.3.2 Projected Baseline**

The population of Banner County is projected to remain at existing levels through 1992. No changes will be necessary in the volunteers, firefighting equipment, or space needs of the Banner County Rural Fire District.

### **9.3.3 Project Impacts**

The project is not projected to result in any population increase in the area served by the Banner County Rural Fire District, and it will not, therefore, cause the need for any changes in the volunteers, firefighting equipment, or space requirements of the Fire District.

#### **9.3.4 Mitigative Measures**

The impact from the project described in the preceding section is so low as to require no mitigative measures.

#### **9.4 Banner County**

##### **9.4.1 Human Services**

###### **9.4.1.1 Baseline Description**

The residents of Banner County must travel north to Scotts Bluff County to access human service agencies. The agencies located in Scotts Bluff are generally available to all Panhandle residents, e.g., the Panhandle Mental Health Center, the Community Action Agency, the Family Planning Service, the Aging Office of Western Nebraska, and others (Section 8.14.1). In general, the effect of Banner County residents on human service agencies is small due to the very small number of county residents.

###### **9.4.1.2 Projected Baseline**

Under the projected baseline assumption, the Banner County population is projected to remain stable at 910 residents from 1983 through 1992. Demand from Banner County residents on the human services agencies in the Nebraska Panhandle counties is not projected to change.

###### **9.4.1.3 Project Impacts**

With the project, no immigrants nor weekly commuters are projected for Banner County. No impact on human service agencies due to the project is therefore anticipated from Banner County.

###### **9.4.1.4 Mitigative Measures**

No mitigative measures should be necessary as there is no project-related population projected for Banner County.

#### **9.4.2 Health Care Facilities and Personnel**

##### **9.4.2.1 Baseline Description**

There are no existing health care services in Banner County. County residents utilize services and facilities in Scotts Bluff and Kimball counties. Because these facilities are readily accessible, i.e., within acceptable commuting time, adjacent counties services are considered adequate to meet the existing needs of county residents (Nebraska State Health Plan 1982-1987, 1982).

##### **9.4.2.2 Projected Baseline**

As indicated in baseline description, there are no health care facilities in Banner County. Residents primarily use facilities in neighboring Scotts Bluff and Kimball counties. The stable population projected through 1992 does not warrant provision of additional health care facilities.

#### 9.4.2.3 Project Impacts

Banner County is without health facilities; therefore, potential impacts are not applicable.

#### 9.4.2.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures are suggested, because there are no health care facilities in Banner County.

### 9.4.3 Banner County: Housing Resources

#### 9.4.3.1 Baseline Description

##### 9.4.3.1.1 Housing Stock

Year-round housing stock in Banner County decreased from 390 units in 1970 to 381 units in 1980 according to the Census. The largest number of these units represent rural, farm-related housing, and are scattered throughout the county. Harrisburg, the largest settlement in the county with a population base of less than 100 in 1980, contained the highest density of housing for any area but represents a small percentage of the housing stock.

##### 9.4.3.1.2 Housing Mix

The housing mix for the county, presented in Table 9.4.3-1, indicates that single-family units make up the largest housing category.

Table 9.4.3-1

#### HOUSING MIX, BANNER COUNTY, 1980

<u>Housing Type</u>	<u>No. of Units</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Single Family	255	67%
Multifamily	84	22%
Mobile Home	42	11%
TOTAL:	381	100%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics, 1980.

The 84-unit multifamily category for Banner represents rural farm housing that is agricultural-employment related. This same condition exists for mobile homes.

#### 9.4.3.1.3 Housing Occupancy And Vacancy

Of the 381 year-round housing units, 315 were occupied according to the 1980 Census. Although 66 units were vacant, only 1 unit was classified as "for sale only" and 4 units "for rent." The remaining vacant units were classified as "awaiting occupancy" or "held for occasional use."

The 1980 Census noted that of the 315 occupied units, 219 were owner-occupied and 96 were renter-occupied. Single-family units made up the largest segment of both owner and renter-occupied housing.

#### 9.4.3.1.4 Housing Conditions

Housing conditions are expressed in terms of plumbing facilities and persons per room for Banner County. Table 9.4.3-2 indicates that only 6 units in the county in 1980 lacked complete plumbing for exclusive use. By comparison with the 1970 Census, 19 units in this condition had been either improved or removed from the housing stock.

Another indicator of housing conditions is the number of persons living in crowded units. The Census defines a crowded housing unit as one with over 1.01 persons per room. Table 9.4.3-2 shows for both 1970 and 1980 that over 90 percent of the units were considered uncrowded.

Numerically, the crowded units dropped from 21 in 1970, to 6 in 1980.

#### 9.4.3.1.5 Housing Values, Prices, Rents

The median value of owner-occupied housing for the county in 1980 was \$22,300. The median price asked for vacant "for sale units" in 1980 was \$26,300. According to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development, the average selling price for single-family housing in 1982 in the county was \$16,500. The median monthly contract rent in 1980 based on Census information was \$90. Of the 34 specified renter-occupied units, 28 units were classified as "no cash rent." All dollars are in current dollars.

#### 9.4.3.1.6 Housing Survey

A 1983 survey of Banner County revealed no mobile home parks, no hotels or motels, no campgrounds, and no apartment projects exceeding 10 units in existence. The survey also found no proposals or plans for the development of any of the above projects.

#### 9.4.3.1.7 Housing Finance

There is only one existing, locally based financial institution in Banner County, the Banner County Bank in Harrisburg. This bank is a single office, locally owned commercial institution with total deposits of \$5.5 million and assets of \$6.6 million.

The bank has not been active in real estate loans. This circumstance is due to the sparse, stable population of the county. Growth has been and is projected to be minimal. The need for a local real estate lender has never been substantial.



Table 9.4.3-2  
HOUSING CONDITIONS - (PLUMBING FACILITIES, PERSONS PER ROOM)  
BANNER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
1970 AND 1980

	<u>Year-Round Housing Units</u>		<u>Plumbing Facilities</u>		<u>% Lacking Complete Plumbing for Exclusive Use</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>No. Lacking Complete Plumbing for Exclusive Use</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	
Banner County	390	381	25	6	6.4	1.6

<u>Persons/Room =</u>	<u>Persons Per Room For Occupied Housing Units</u>											
	<u>1.0 or Less</u>		<u>% 1.0 or Less</u>		<u>1.01 to 1.50</u>		<u>% 1.01 to 1.50</u>		<u>1.51 or More</u>		<u>% 1.51 or More</u>	
	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1980</u>
Banner County	301	309	93.5	98.6	21 <sup>a</sup>	4	6.5	1.3	N/A	2	N/A	.1

Notes: N/A - Not Applicable  
a For 1970 Banner County, the 1.01 to 1.50 category includes all persons per room over 1.01.  
Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Nebraska General Housing Characteristics 1970, 1980.

Any real estate financing needs are served by the Scottsbluff/Gering financial community, and by the closer but smaller Kimball community. The Nebraska Mortgage Fund has not made a loan in Banner County during the 4 years of its operation.

#### 9.4.3.2 Projected Baseline

Banner County population is projected to remain constant from 1983 to 1992. Housing baseline supply from 1983 to 1992 stays level within all housing categories in these forecast years.

#### 9.4.3.3 Project Impacts

No demand for housing in Banner County is projected because there is no immigrant population.

#### 9.4.3.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures for housing resources in Banner County are suggested.

### 9.4.4 Transportation - Road Network

An overview of the regional roadway network appears in Section 10.5.

Consideration was given to the project-related transportation impact on both the population centers and the rural portions of Banner County. Based on available information, it became apparent that the countywide rural road network associated with the Launch Facility modifications needed detailed study.

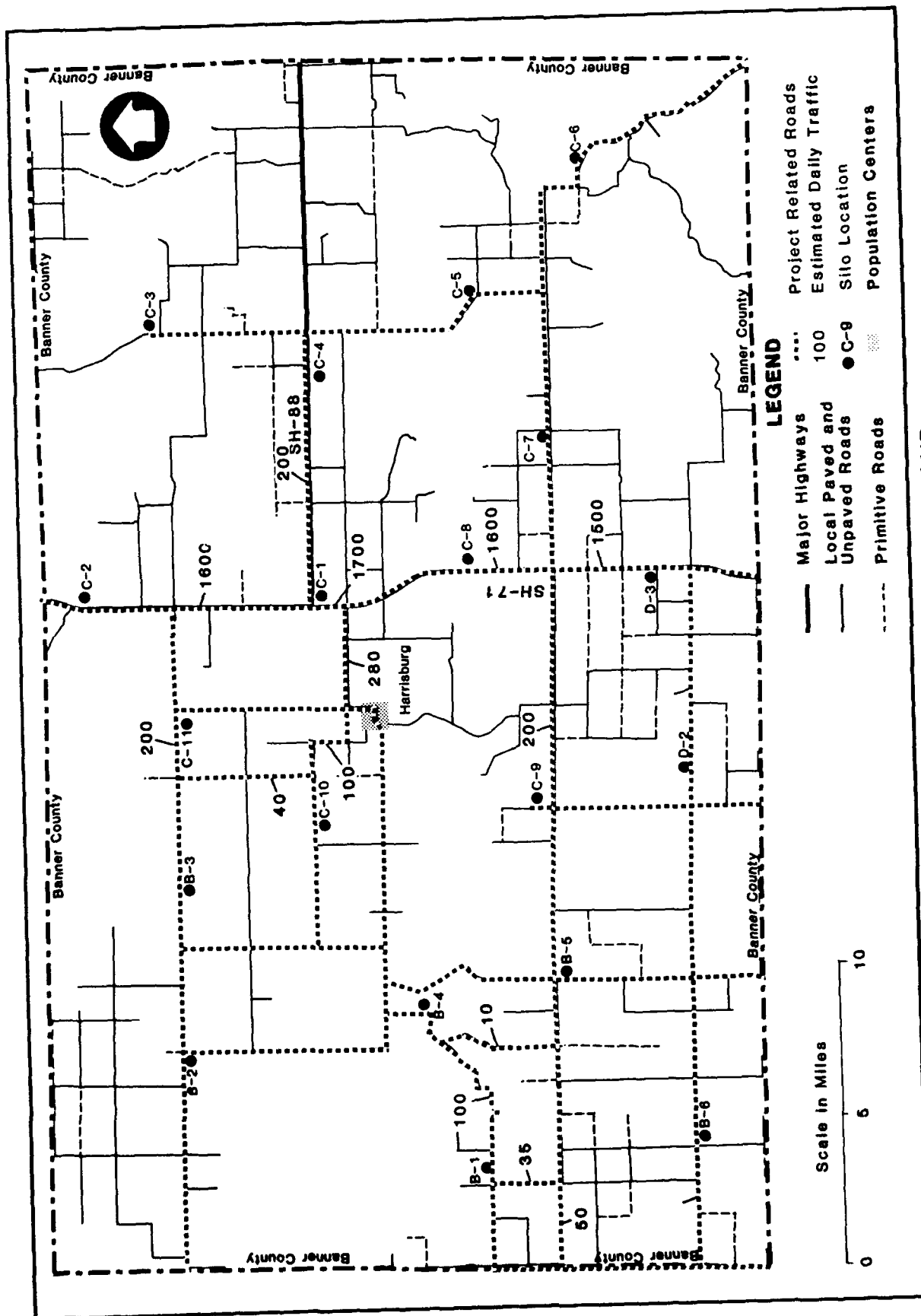
#### 9.4.4.1 Baseline Description

This sparsely populated county has only two high-type, paved roads, State Highway 71 (Federal Aid Primary) to the north of the Harrisburg junction and State Highway 88 (Federal Aid Secondary) in the eastern portion of the county as shown in Figure 10.5.1-1, Regional Highways. State Highway 71 acts as an arterial, while State Highway 88 and key county roads (gravel) serve as collectors, as shown in Figure 10.5.1-2, National Highway Functional Classification. All the remaining roads are gravel.

Project-related routes in Banner County and their 1983 estimated average daily traffic volumes are shown in Figure 9.4.4-1. Project-related roadways consist of transporter/erector routes, and roads functionally classified as collectors or higher.

Vehicle classification count data was collected from the Nebraska Department of Roads for one location in Banner County. Supplementary traffic counts were carried out by the study, at three locations in the County, on a November 1983 weekday. Data from these supplementary counts was used to develop typical average daily traffic figures for 1983.

The locations of count stations are shown in Figure 9.4.4-2. Table 9.4.4-1 gives details of average daily traffic and the proportion of truck traffic to total vehicles.



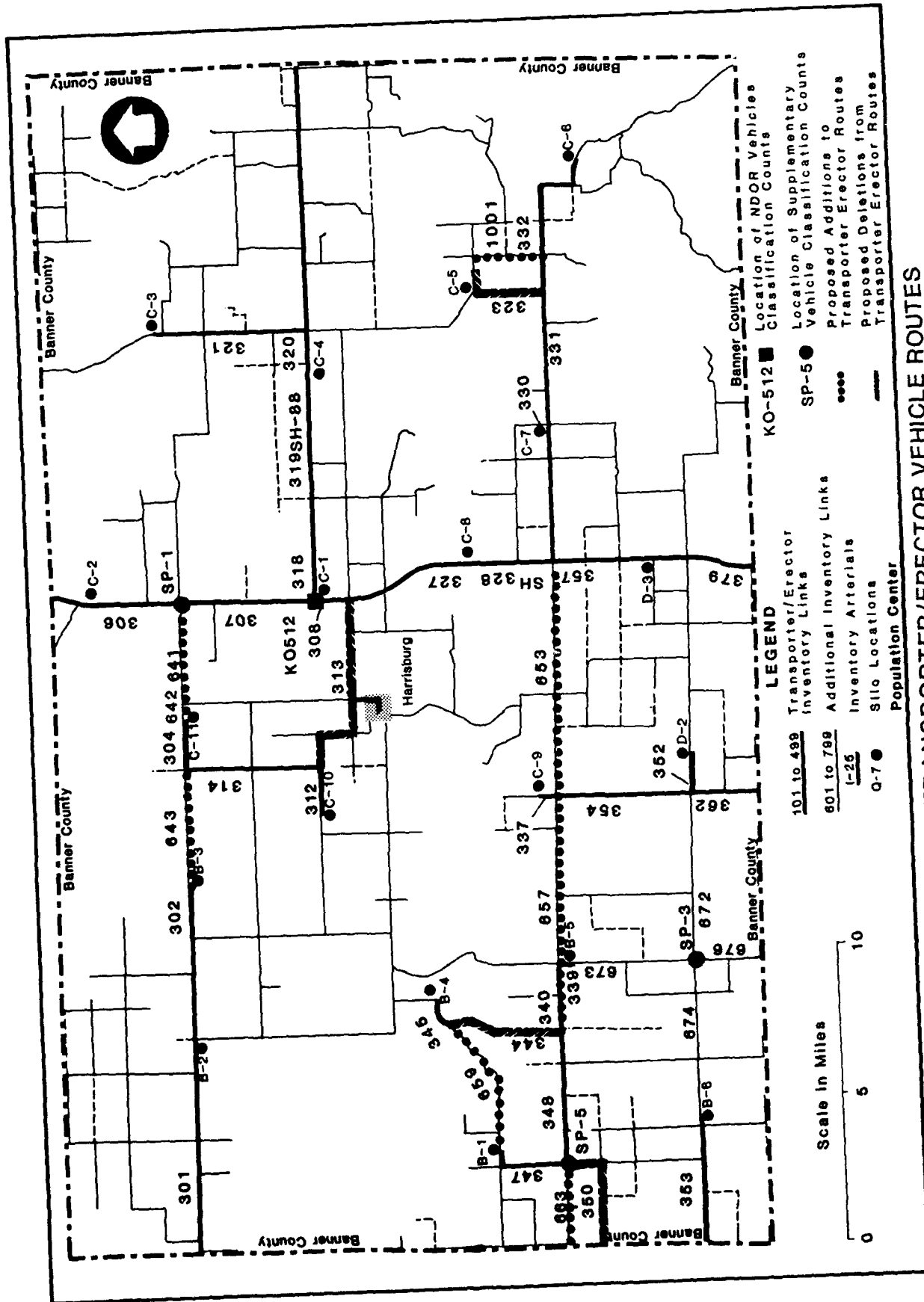


FIGURE 9.4.4-2 BANNER COUNTY TRANSPORTER/ERECTOR VEHICLE ROUTES

Table 9.4.4-1

1983 VEHICLE CLASSIFICATION DATA  
BANNER COUNTY

Station	Location	Number of Trucks and Buses			A.D.T. Total Vehicles
		Peak Hour	Daily Traffic	Percentage of Total Vehicles	
K0 512	State Highway 71 Link 307	N/A	315	20.5%	1,539
K0 512	State Highway 71 Link 308	N/A	330	19.7%	1,677
K0 512	Link 318	N/A	31	13.4%	232
SP-1	State Highway 71 Link 306	33	375	19.9%	1,888
SP-1	State Highway 71 Link 307	34	369	20.7%	1,780
SP-1	Link 641	3	15	11.6%	129
SP-1	East	2	7	13.5%	52
SP-3	Link 673	3	21	38.2%	55
SP-3	Link 676	3	13	20.6%	63
SP-3	Link 674	2	14	31.8%	44
SP-3	Link 672	3	22	46.8%	47
SP-5	Link 347	4	12	42.9%	28
SP-5	Link 350	2	3	23.1%	13
SP-5	Link 663	1	10	23.3%	43
SP-5	Link 348	3	6	22.2%	27

Figure 9.4.4-2 shows transporter/erector routes in Banner County and the numbering system that was developed to identify these routes for the road inventory survey. Table 9.4.4-2 presents a summary of existing physical conditions on these routes compiled during road inventory. This summary includes surface type and structural classifications as well as information on associated roadway elements.

#### 9.4.4.2 Projected Baseline

Specific consideration was given to agricultural harvest operations. Data from a representative permanent traffic counter, located in an area subject to harvest operations, were carefully studied. The Wyoming Highway Department operated a continuous automatic traffic recorder at station 190 on Wyoming State Highway 154 near Veteran in Goshen County.

Station 190 had an average daily traffic (ADT) of 402. This is higher than the ADT generally found on the rural roads evaluated for this study. The effect of the November harvest is evident when comparing 1982 October and November traffic data. For example, the October ADT was 445 and the November ADT was 450. However, the peak day in October was only 656 compared to a peak day in November of 1,013. Records show that the peak day was Saturday, November 6. The volume on Friday, November 5, was 875 and the volume on Sunday, November 7, was 757. The peak day volume was 2.5 times the ADT.

A further examination was made of the highest hourly volumes at this station. Roadways are normally designed for the 30th to 50th highest hourly traffic volumes. The chart below shows the range of the high hourly volumes.

Highest Hour of the Year (Ranking)	Hourly Traffic Volume (Vehs)	Percentage of ADT
1st	82	20.4%
10th	65	16.2%
20th	63	15.7%
30th	60	14.9%
40th	58	14.4%
50th	55	13.7%

An appraisal of these data indicates the following:

- o The highest daily volume associated with harvest may be considerably higher (possibly by a factor of 2.5) than the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes range from 15 to 20 percent of the average daily traffic.
- o The highest hourly volumes are well within the capacity of a 2-lane rural road.
- o Special consideration should be given to the traffic associated with harvest operations. The agricultural vehicles are heavy, bulky, and slow-moving. The effect of these vehicles on traffic operations is greater than their absolute numbers would indicate.

Table 9.4.4-2

BANNER COUNTY  
TRANSPORTER/ERECTOR ROUTES-  
SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

DESCRIPTION	MILEAGE
PRIMITIVE ROADS	0.00
UNIMPROVED ROADS	0.00
GRADED AND DRAINED EARTH ROADS	1.99
SOIL SURFACE ROADS	25.75
GRAVEL OR STONE ROADS NOT GRADED AND DRAINED	0.00
GRAVEL OR STONE ROADS GRADED AND DRAINED	36.92
BITUMINOUS SURFACE TREATED ROADS	0.00
LOW-TYPE MIXED BITUMINOUS ROADS	0.00
HIGH-TYPE MIXED BITUMINOUS ROADS	37.24
LOW-TYPE BITUMINOUS PENETRATION ROADS	0.00
HIGH-TYPE BITUMINOUS PENETRATION ROADS	0.00
BITUMINOUS CONCRETE	0.00
PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE ROADS	0.00
COMBINATION TYPE ROADS	0.00
OTHER	0.00
 TOTAL MILES OF ROAD FOR BANNER COUNTY	 101.90

## OTHER ELEMENTS

## STRUCTURES

## DESCRIPTION

## DESCRIPTION

SUBSTANDARD CURVES <sup>1</sup>	1
BURIED PIPELINE	3
OVERHEAD CABLE	30
BURIED CABLE	1
SILLO ENTRANCE ROAD	19
RAILROAD TRACK	0
OVERHEAD SIGN	0

BRIDGES	23
BOX CULVERTS	17
REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE	0
CORRUGATED METAL PIPE	112
METAL PIPE ARCHES	32
OTHER	0
R.C. ARCH CULVERTS	0
CATTLE GUARDS	6

Note: Substandard curves are horizontal and vertical curves that would be unable to accommodate the required turning radius and configuration of the stage transporter vehicle.

Similar relationships between peak harvest traffic and ADT can be expected in the other counties within the Area of Site Influence.

Baseline (without the project) average daily traffic volumes on all project-related roads in Banner County were estimated for the peak construction year and the operational period. The peak year of constructions in rural areas will depend upon the scheduling of Launch Facility-related modifications. Based on available information, it was assumed that 1988 to 1989 would be the peak construction years for much of Banner County. Therefore, 1988 to 1989 were used for analysis for the projected baseline. In addition, 1992 was assumed to be 2 years after the project operational phase would begin. Thus, 1992 was also used in the baseline analysis.

The 1988 and 1989 baseline average daily traffic volumes for project-related roads in Banner County were estimated by applying average annual growth rates to the existing 1983 average daily traffic volumes. These growth rates were based upon a review of previous traffic trends and discussions with Wyoming and Nebraska highway officials. Average annual growth rates by road classification are summarized below:

Rural Interstates	3.0 percent
Rural State Highways	2.5 percent
County Roads	1.0 percent

From a capacity standpoint, all 1988 and 1989 estimated baseline average daily traffic volumes on project-related roads in the county would remain low and would be well within the capacity of the existing roadways. For example, 1988 and 1989 baseline average daily traffic for links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 1,730 to 1,920, an increase ranging from 220 to 230 over existing 1983 volumes. The 1,920 volume quoted above also represents the highest estimated baseline traffic volume in the county. This figure is still well below the road's capacity volume. For county roads, the 1988 and 1989 estimated baseline volumes are well within the capacity of existing roadways.

To estimate baseline average daily traffic volumes in the county for the projected operational year, the average annual growth rates were applied to 1983 traffic volumes through 1992. All 1992 estimated average daily traffic volumes for roadways within the county again were well within the capacity of those roadways to accommodate the increased volumes. For example, the 1992 baseline average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 would range from 1,870 to 2,120. The 2,120 volume quoted above also represents the highest estimated baseline traffic volume in the county. This figure is still well below the road's capacity volume. Baseline 1992 volumes on county roads would again fall far below any of these volumes and are well within the capacity of existing roadways.

Under the projected baseline, it was assumed that Minuteman transporter/erector routes would continue to be used and their physical condition would remain essentially unchanged, with the current level of maintenance.



#### 9.4.4.3 Project Impacts

Traffic volumes on project-related roads in Banner County were forecast for 1988 to 1989, the county's peak project construction years. It is estimated that project-related traffic volumes during peak Launch Facility modification will be about 120 vehicles per day including about 20 heavy trucks. While this represents a substantial daily traffic increase on the rural road system, the resulting traffic will be below the capacity of the roadway. This will not necessarily be the case however when roads other than Interstates are upgraded during harvest time. These upgrading activities may then cause delays which will be of short duration.

Project impacts upon the 1988 and 1989 estimated average daily traffic volumes on links of State Highway 71 within the county would range from 1,850 to 2,040, still well below the minimum capacity for a 2-lane road. The 2,040 volume quoted above also represents the highest 1988 and 1989 estimated traffic volumes in the county. This volume would be well below this roadway's capacity to accommodate maximum traffic volumes. For county roads, 1988 and 1989 traffic volumes are considerably less than the capacity of the roadways.

Based on available information, project operational requirements will not generate substantially more traffic than is currently experienced for the Minuteman program. Any roadway impacts based on additional Peacekeeper vehicle traffic-will be minimal.

The project conditions require that existing transporter/erector routes be able to accommodate the specifications of the stage transporter vehicle. Projected roadway deficiencies on transporter/erector routes were assessed through an evaluation of existing roadway conditions provided by the road inventory and applicable project design standards. Table 9.4.4-3 shows basic roadway and structural deficiencies identified during this evaluation. It should be noted that the potential road and structural deficiencies identified in this report are being verified through an evaluation process by the Military Traffic Management Command, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of Air Force, and the state and local transportation departments.

Transporter/erector roadways must have adequate surface type and width. Preliminary results of the Military Traffic Management Command roadway evaluation study indicate that substantial road and bridge improvements will be necessary. Many miles of existing gravel roads will probably be paved, and existing paved roads may be reconstructed or resurfaced. The roadway evaluation study developed preliminary surfacing options shown in Table 9.4.4-4 to accommodate the Peacekeeper project.

Aggregate quantities determined from the Wyoming and Nebraska highway options are expected to be maximum estimates. Option A would require 1,700,000 cubic yards (cy) of aggregate and 710,000 cy of asphaltic concrete. Option B would require 1,380,000 cy of aggregate and 1,050,000 cy of asphaltic concrete. As recommended by the Federal Highway Administration, careful consideration should be given to using existing gravel in place. lists basic roadway and structural deficiencies identified during this evaluation of physical condition compiled during road inventory.

Table 9.4.4-3

BANNER COUNTY  
COMPARISON OF EXISTING CONDITIONS  
WITH VARIOUS DESIGN STANDARDS

TOTAL MILES OF ROAD IN THIS COUNTY 101.90

GRAVEL ROADWAYS

TOTAL MILES OF E-2<sup>1</sup> OR LESS 64.66

GEOMETRIC CONDITIONS

SUBSTANDARD CURVES<sup>2</sup> 1

CULVERTS

TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER	NO. WITH DEFICIENT COVER <sup>3</sup>
BOX CULVERTS	17	NO STANDARDS
REINFORCED CONCRETE PIPE	0	0
CORRUGATED METAL PIPE	112	38
METAL PIPE ARCH	32	15
R.C. ARCH CULVERTS	0	0

Notes: 1 Gravel and stone roads, graded and drained.

2 Substandard curves are horizontal and vertical curves that would be unable to accommodate the required turning radius and configuration of the stage transporter vehicle.

3 Cover refers to the thickness of material over the top of a culvert structure that acts to distribute the applied traffic loading.

Table 9.4.4-4

TRANSPORTER/ERECTOR ROUTE  
SURFACING OPTIONS

<u>OPTION A</u>		<u>OPTION B</u>	
Combination Aggregate (agg.) and Asphalt (asph.)		All Asphalt	
<u>Miles</u>	<u>Roadway Section</u>	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Roadway Section</u>
WYOMING			
75.29	40' wide; 6" agg. plus 3" asph.		Same as Option A
106.57	32' wide; 6" agg. plus 3" asph.		Same as Option A
17.90	32' wide; 3" asph.		Same as Option A
105.12	28' wide; 3" asph.		Same as Option A
145.11 <sup>a</sup>	28' wide; 9" agg.	181.39 <sup>a</sup>	20' wide, 3" asph.
36.28 <sup>a</sup>	24' wide; 9" agg.		on 28' wide, 9" agg. base
NEBRASKA			
84.6 <sup>a</sup>	22' wide; 7" asph.		Same as Option A
71.2 <sup>a</sup>	27' wide; 4" agg.	71.2 <sup>a</sup>	20' wide; 7" asph.
31.5	1" asph. overlay on two 8' shoulders		Same as Option A

Note: <sup>a</sup> Indicates a currently gravel-surfaced roadway.

Likely material locations have been identified on Figure 3.10.6-3 (which is enclosed as a fold-out at the end of this volume), as have extra road links which may be used as haul routes.

The transportation route network will be improved under the project in the year 1987 during which time construction traffic will be at its heaviest. Additional countywide truck traffic related to the transport of roadway construction materials, is estimated at approximately 90 trucks per day for this year.

Construction activities to upgrade the transporter/erector routes (including certain bridges) will not result in degradation of the level of service or safety, on most of the roads involved. However, delays could be moderate especially when coupled with agricultural traffic at harvest time. Construction activities at the Launch Facilities are expected to cause minor delays.

Other project-related roads will be adequately maintained. Maintenance activities associated with these other project-related roads may result in short-term traffic delays.

Overall, however, there will be a substantial long-term beneficial effect on the physical condition and safety of the transporter/erector routes due to upgrading activities associated with the project.

#### 9.4.4.4 Mitigative Measures

The following mitigative measure for roads is offered for consideration:

- o Use of irretrievable resources, particularly aggregates for road construction, can be minimized through use of appropriate design methods. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has suggested that consideration is given to stabilizing existing gravel in place as a means to reduce aggregate usage on transporter/erector road improvements. This mitigation will be effective in conserving irretrievable aggregate resources, and if selected, should be implemented in the preliminary design phase of the project. The responsible agencies for implementing this mitigation measure is the Nebraska Department of Roads.

**10.0**

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## **REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**

## 10.0 REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

### 10.1 Regional Recreational Facilities

#### 10.1.1 Baseline Description

For the regional recreation analysis, the area of study includes the six-county Area of Site Influence plus the resource-based recreational areas in Albany County. Carbon County is not included in the Area of Site Influence in the Jurisdictional EPTR because the impacts on regional recreation facilities in the county are low and not significant. Activity day percentage increases over baseline average less than 1 percent for the 6 facilities identified in the county. For a discussion of Carbon County facilities and impacts, please see the Final Land Use EPTR. There are 35 resource-based recreation areas located within the region. Medicine Bow National Forest encompasses four administrative units, each of which is treated separately in the tables accompanying this section. Of that total, 29 areas are in Wyoming while the remaining 6 areas are in Nebraska. Major agencies with jurisdiction over these areas include the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wyoming Recreation Commission, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Other agencies with jurisdiction over certain areas include the Cheyenne Parks and Recreation Department, Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities, and South Platte Natural Resource District. One area, the North Platte River in Nebraska, does not fall under the jurisdiction of any particular agency.

A complete listing of these 35 recreational areas is provided in Table 10.1.1-1. The table is arranged first by county location and then by jurisdictional agency. The locations of these areas within the region are shown in Figure 10.1.1-1. Numbers in the far left hand column of Table 10.1.1-1 refer to locations shown in Figure 10.1.1-1.

In addition to the 35 resource-based recreational areas discussed in this section, there are also some lands within the region that are under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In the case of the National Park Service lands, the two areas included in the region are Fort Laramie National Historic Site in Goshen County and Scotts Bluff National Monument in Scotts Bluff County. Since both areas are primarily oriented toward sightseeing and history education rather than toward participation in any of the outdoor recreational activities considered in this study, no further discussion of these areas is provided. As for the BLM lands, data pertaining to recreational participation within the study region were only available in aggregation with several counties outside of the region. Since most of these lands are located outside of the region, no further discussion of these areas is provided.

#### 10.1.1.1 U.S. Forest Service

##### 10.1.1.1.1 Visitation and Use

Medicine Bow National Forest is the largest and most important recreational resource within the region. It contains more than one million acres and four separate land units (Medicine Bow, Pole Mountain, Hayden, and Laramie Peak) distributed among five Wyoming counties, with the heart of the Forest in

Table 10.1.1-1

## RESOURCE-BASED RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE SEVEN-COUNTY REGION

County	Recreation Area	Jurisdiction	Total Acres	Land Acres	Water Acres	Stream Miles	Facilities	Primary Activities	Visitation
1 Albany, WY (and parts of several other counties)	Medicine Bow National Forest	National Forest Service	1,093,341	1,091,755	1,586	1.163	42 campgrounds; 11 family picnic areas; 1 group picnic area; 2 boating areas; 2 ski/winter sports areas; 2 information centers; 23 hiking trails	camping; hunting; fishing; picnicking; hiking/horseback riding; snowmobiling/cross country skiing	Very high
5 Albany, WY	Bamforth Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	1,166	1,032	134	0	none	sightseeing	Low
6 Albany, WY	Hutton Lake Wildlife Refuge	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service	1,968	1,358	610	0	none	sightseeing	Low
7 Albany, WY	Alsop Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	36	1	35	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	fishing	Medium
8 Albany, WY	Gelatt Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	240	195	45	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	fishing; hunting	Medium
9 Albany, WY	Johnson Lake (Sybille Unit)	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	3,397	3,390	7	7.1	1 parking/camping area	fishing; hunting	Low
10 Albany, WY	Lake Mattie	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	1,660	160	1,500	0	1 parking/camping area; 2 boat launching areas (1 ramp); 3 picnic tables	fishing; hunting; boating; camping; swimming; picnicking	High
11 Albany, WY	Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	11,448	11,447	1	2.0	1 parking/camping area	fishing; hunting; camping	Low
12 Albany, WY	Laramie River	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	933	933	0	3.9	3 parking/camping areas	fishing; camping	Medium
13 Albany, WY	Leavenby Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	22.6	8.6	14	0	1 parking/camping area	fishing	Low
14 Albany, WY	Meeboer Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	273	208	65	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	fishing; camping; boating	Medium
15 Albany, WY	Twin Buttes Reservoir	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	907	553	354	0	1 parking/camping area; 2 boat launching ramps	fishing; hunting; boating; camping	High
16 Albany, WY	Wheatland Reservoir #3	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	2,638	100	2,538	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	fishing; camping; boating; swimming	High
17 Goshen, WY	Hawk Springs Reservoir	Wyoming Game & Fish Department (Proposed)	1,430	<50	1,380	0	1 boat launching ramp; 10 picnic/camping sites (Proposed)	fishing	Low

Table 10.1.1-1 Continued, Page 2 of 3  
RESOURCE-BASED RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE SEVEN-COUNTY REGION

County	Recreation Area	Jurisdiction	Total Acres	Land Acres	Water Acres	Stream Miles	Facilities	Primary Activities	Visitation
18 Goshen, WY	Packers Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	105	0	105	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	fishing; swimming; boating; camping	Low
19 Goshen, WY	Rawhide Creek	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	666	666	0	3	1 parking/camping area	hunting; fishing	Low
20 Goshen, WY	Springer Wildlife Unit	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	2,652	1,571	1,081	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching ramp	hunting; fishing; boating; camping; picnicking	Medium
21 Goshen, WY	Table Mountain Wildlife Unit	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	1,736	1,576	160	0	4 parking/camping areas	hunting; camping; fishing	Medium
22 Laramie, WY	Curt Gowdy State Park	Wyoming Recreation Commission	1,930	1,645	285	0	3 campgrounds (59 sites); 3 picnic areas (17 sites); 1 boat launching ramp; 1 archery range; 1 fishing pier	fishing; camping; picnicking; hiking/ horseback riding; boating	High
23 Laramie, WY	Lake Absaracca	Cheyenne Parks & Recreation Dept.	34	5	29	0	none	fishing; boating	Medium
24 Laramie, WY	Upper North Crow Reservoir	Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities	N/A	N/A	75	0	none	fishing; camping; boating; picnicking	Low
25 Laramie, WY	Sloans Lake	Cheyenne Parks & Recreation Dept.	29	Shoreline	29	0	1 swimming beach; 2 boat docks	swimming; fishing; boating; picnicking	Medium
26 Platte, WY	Glendo State Park	Wyoming Recreation Commission	22,430	9,930	12,500	0	7 campground (> 88 sites); 1 picnic area (> 21 sites); 4 group picnic areas; 2 boat launching ramps; 2 playgrounds; 1 marina/restaurant, store, motel	Camping; picnicking; swimming; fishing; boating; hiking/ horseback riding	High
27 Platte, WY	Guernsey State Park	Wyoming Recreation Commission	8,638	6,538	2,100	0	7 campgrounds (142 sites); 1 picnic area (12 sites); 3 boat launching ramps; 1 playground; 1 museum	Camping; picnicking; swimming; boating; hiking/horseback riding; fishing	High
28 Platte, WY	Grayrocks Reservoir	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	6,200	2,700	3,500	0	1 boat launching ramp; 1 parking/camping area;	fishing; boating; camping; hunting	High
29 Platte, WY	North Platte River	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	40	40	0	1.5	1 parking/camping area	fishing; camping	Low
30 Platte, WY	Rock Lake	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	62	12	50	0	1 boat launching ramp	fishing; hunting; boating	Low



Table 10.1.1-1 Continued, Page 3 of 3  
RESOURCE-BASED RECREATIONAL AREAS IN THE SEVEN-COUNTY REGION

County	Recreation Area	Jurisdiction	Total Acres	Land Acres	Water Acres	Stream Miles	Facilities	Primary Activities	Visitation
31 Platte, WY	Wheatland Reservoir #1	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	460	160	300	0	1 parking/camping area; 1 boat launching area	fishing; boating; camping; picnicking; swimming	Medium
32 Platte, WY	Johnson Reservoir #3	Wyoming Game & Fish Department	482	302	180	0	1 parking/camping area	fishing; boating; picnicking	Low
33 Scotts Bluff, NE	North Platte National Wildlife Refuge	Owned by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; managed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Oct. 1 - Jan. 15	2,077	1,015	1,062	N/A	none	fishing; hiking; nature study	Low
34 Scotts Bluff, NE	Lake Minatare State Recreation Area	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, except Oct. 1 - Jan. 15, when managed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	2,970	812	2,158	0	100 camp/picnic sites (approx.); 7 shelters; 5 boat ramps	fishing; picnicking; camping; swimming; boating	High
35 Scotts Bluff, NE	Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area/ Wildlife Management Area	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	893	893	0	0	6-8 picnic sites; 20 campsites (approx.); 2 shelters; 3 miles of trails	picnicking; hiking; camping; hunting (in SRA only)	Medium
36 Scotts Bluff, NE	Nine Mile Creek Wildlife Management Area	Nebraska Game and Parks Commission	178	178	N/A	N/A	none	fishing; hiking; hunting	Low
37 Scotts Bluff, NE	North Platte River	None	N/A	N/A	N/A	61	3 camping areas along river	canoeing; fishing; rafting	Medium
38 Kimball, NE	Oliver Reservoir	South Platte Natural Resource District	980	708	272	N/A	28 picnic sites; 60 camp sites; 1 boat ramp, 4 comfort stations	fishing; picnicking; camping; swimming; hunting; boating	Medium

Note: a Numbers refer to locations shown in Figure 10.1.1-1.

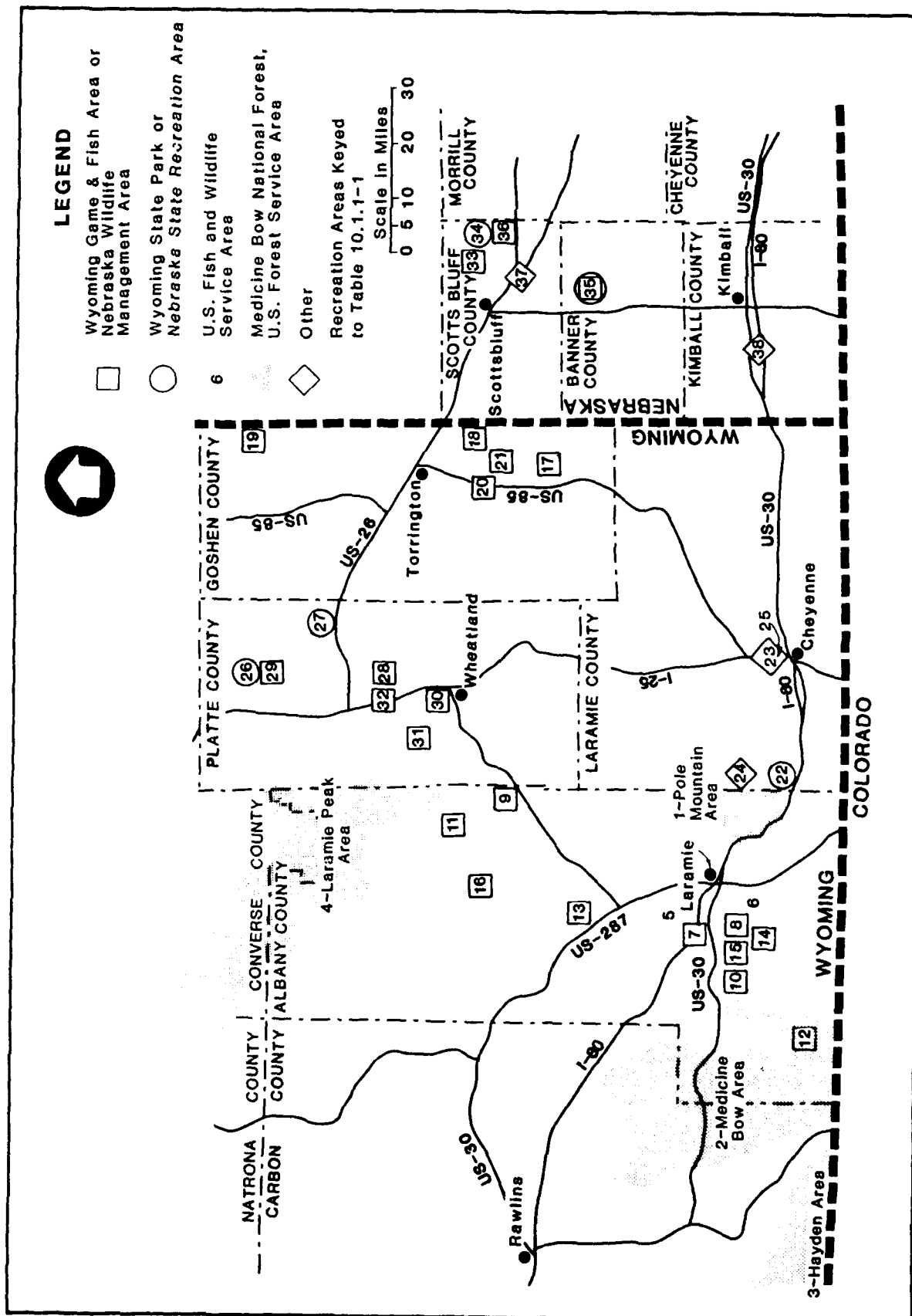


FIGURE 10.1.1-1 RESOURCE-BASED RECREATIONAL AREAS

Albany County. The majority of the lands within the Forest are managed by the U.S. Forest Service, with remaining lands under state and private ownership.

Medicine Bow National Forest is as much an attraction to local residents as it is to people living outside the region. A field inspection of the Medicine Bow and Pole Mountain divisions of the Forest during a July weekend indicated that approximately one-half of all cars had local license plates. Of the in-state vehicles, the majority were from Laramie and Albany counties, which were about equally represented. Therefore, although Medicine Bow serves a large regional base, residents of the Cheyenne area are an important component of its overall visitation. This is particularly true for the Pole Mountain unit.

The Forest Service maintains annual records of visitation by activity at Medicine Bow. These records provide a base from which to evaluate current usage patterns. Table 10.1.1-2 shows participation in ten major recreational activities, in visitor days, during 1981 and 1982. The most popular activity at the Forest is camping. This is partially due to the fact that visitor days are defined as complete 12-hour days, so that one overnight camping trip automatically represents 2 visitor days. For other activities, several trips of various durations would probably be required to comprise a complete visitor day.

Table 10.1.1-2

VISITATION BY ACTIVITY AT MEDICINE BOW NATIONAL FOREST  
(In Thousands of Visitor Days)

<u>Activity</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Camping	323.6	282.1
Picnicking	57.2	56.1
Skiing	5.9	11.1
Swimming	0.7	1.5
Fishing	80.7	92.9
Hunting	110.5	102.6
Boating	11.1	7.8
Hiking/Horseback Riding	58.8	58.3
Snowmobiling/Cross-Country Skiing	63.1	57.5
Off-Road Vehicle Use	-	-

Source: U.S. Forest Service, Recreation Information Management Center, November 3, 1981 and November 29, 1982.

Of the other activities, the most popular is hunting, followed by fishing. Most of the hunting activity is related to big game such as elk, deer, and bighorn sheep. Fishing occurs in any of a large number of lakes and rivers. Other popular activities include hiking/horseback riding, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing, and picnicking. Downhill skiing at the one major ski area in the Forest is not particularly attractive due to competition from other nearby ski areas. Swimming is also low in comparison to other activities, probably due to the cold temperatures of the water bodies within the Forest. Even though off-road vehicle use is not identified by the

statistics as an important recreational activity, Forest Service personnel have indicated that there have been increasing problems with such vehicles in areas where they are not permitted.

The Forest Service also maintains data concerning visitation-to-capacity ratios for individual developed sites within Medicine Bow. The so-called theoretical capacity is determined by multiplying the estimated capacity in people-at-one-time by the number of calendar days during a typical recreation season and then doubling the result to account for two 12-hour days in one calendar day. The estimated number of annual visitor days at each site can then be compared to the theoretical capacity. Generally, the Forest Service assumes that when visitation exceeds 40 percent of theoretical capacity for a given site, that site is considered overcrowded during much of the year.

Based on Forest Service statistics, most of the areas within Medicine Bow are well below theoretical capacity. The areas that do have visitation-to-capacity values of 40 percent or greater are listed in Table 10.1.1-3. For the most part, there are a sufficient number of underutilized sites within the Forest close enough to those listed to handle any overflow as a result of overcrowding. Exceptions are the four campgrounds within the northern Laramie Peak area (Campbell Creek, Esterbrook, Curtis Gulch, and Friend Park) since they are the only campgrounds in that portion of the Forest. Similarly, the two boating areas listed (Rob Roy and Lake Owen) are the only two areas developed specifically for boating anywhere in the Forest.

Table 10.1.1-3

MEDICINE BOW NATIONAL FOREST SITES WITH  
VISITATION-TO-CAPACITY VALUES OF 40 PERCENT OR MORE

<u>Site Name</u>	<u>Site Type</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Mirror Lake	Picnic ground, family type	194.80
Lake Marie	Picnic ground, family type	279.22
Battle Creek	Campground, family type	57.18
Bottle Creek	Campground, family type	64.54
Jack Creek	Campground, family type	54.55
Six Mile Gap	Campground, family type	42.85
Bottle Creek	Picnic ground, family type	69.09
Rob Roy	Boating site	44.71
Lake Owen	Boating site	83.63
Pelton Creek	Campground, family type	41.14
Brooklyn Lake	Campground, family type	62.28
Sugarloaf-Libby Lake	Picnic ground, family type	65.21
Sugarloaf-Lewis Lake	Picnic ground, family type	65.21
Campbell Creek	Campground, family type	65.66
Esterbrook	Campground, family type	46.22
Curtis Gulch	Campground, family type	73.20
Friend Park	Campground, family type	79.94

Source: U.S. Forest Service, Recreation Information Management Center, November 29, 1982.

According to Forest Service statistics, no developed campground or picnic ground in the Pole Mountain Unit of the Forest has a visitation-to-capacity value of 40 percent or greater. Therefore, although this area receives heavy use by recreationists, there is generally adequate capacity available to handle increased use volumes.

#### 10.1.1.1.2 Operations and Maintenance/Staffing

The basic source of revenues for operations and maintenance at Medicine Bow is appropriations from Congress, since it is a federal facility. Camping fees collected at each of the 42 campgrounds supplement these revenues. Table 10.1.1-4 shows the recreation budget for the developed, dispersed, and wilderness portions of the Forest during the last 3 years. Despite the relatively large recreation budget allocated to Medicine Bow, the Forest Service has been unable to maintain many of its facilities and developed sites up to standards during recent years. Therefore, the budget is considered by the Forest Service to be inadequate for proper maintenance of the Forest.

Recreation-related staffing in 1983 included 8 permanent staff, 19 seasonal staff (4.5 person years), 24 human resource program workers (5.8 person years), and 73 volunteers (2.26 person years).

Although some of the permanent staff are trained in law enforcement techniques, many of the criminal violations occurring within the Forest are handled by the county sheriff's office. The Albany County Sheriff's Department, for example, operates under a contract with USFS to provide law enforcement services in portions of the Forest in Albany County. The contract gives the Sheriff's Department jurisdiction in the enforcement of federal, state and county laws and Forest regulations. Search and rescue and other non-enforcement services are also included under the contract.

Table 10.1.1-4

#### OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET: MEDICINE BOW NATIONAL FOREST (In Thousands of Dollars)

	<u>Developed Recreation</u>	<u>Dispersed Recreation</u>	<u>Wilderness Recreation</u>	<u>Total Recreation</u>
FY 1981	386.5	158.5	11.3	556.3
FY 1982	395.6	165.0	6.6	567.2
FY 1983	330.8	73.6	8.7	413.1

Source: U.S. Forest Service, Medicine Bow National Forest Headquarters, Laramie, Wyoming.

According to Sheriff's Department personnel, most of the criminal enforcement activities in the Forest involve petty theft, vandalism, assault and battery, and loitering. Non-criminal activities largely involve road and climbing

accidents and violations of Forest regulations. Regular patrols through the Forest area average three per day during the off season and six per day during the peak season. On peak weekends and holidays an officer may be stationed in the area continuously, primarily at the Pole Mountain area.

In addition to regular patrols, all calls for assistance are answered by the Sheriff's Department. In all, according to a spokesman for the Department, about 10 percent of all complaints handled by the Sheriff's office are Forest-related. At present, the Sheriff's Department does not believe there is a problem in providing adequate service to the Forest. Law enforcement activities of the Albany County Sheriff's Department in the Medicine Bow National Forest are summarized in Table 10.1.1-5.

Hunting and fishing violations in the Forest are under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. The majority of the recreation staff, therefore, are primarily concerned with maintaining facilities, keeping the grounds clean, providing public coordination and education, etc. The Forest Service indicates that the number of paid employees is based entirely on the budget for a given year rather than on percentage of visitation.

Table 10.1.1-5

CLASS 1 CRIME COMPLAINTS IN MEDICINE BOW NATIONAL FOREST  
PROCESSED BY THE ALBANY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
FOR 6 MONTHS IN 1983

Type <sup>1</sup>	Frequency	
	<u>Pole Mountain Area</u>	<u>Other Areas</u>
Forcible Rape	2	0
Aggravated Assault	4	3
Burglary	6	9
Larceny	4	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	4	2
Other Assaults	11	7
Vandalism	12	11
Narcotics	20	13
Driving while under the Influence of Alcohol	2	1
Disorderly Conduct	1	0
All Others <sup>2</sup>	<u>18</u>	<u>40</u>
TOTAL:	84	91

Notes: 1 Does not include motor vehicle violations.

2 Includes Forest regulations.

10.1.1.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

10.1.1.2.1 Visitation and Use

The USFWS maintains three national wildlife refuges within the region. North Platte National Wildlife Refuge is in Scotts Bluff County, while Bamforth and Hutton Lake NWRs are in Albany County. No records are kept concerning

visitation at these areas, but estimates by USFWS personnel are low, on the order of 50 people a year at Bamforth and 500 people a year at Hutton Lake. No estimate of visitation was available for North Platte, which probably receives somewhat more use than the other two.

North Platte Refuge is adjacent to and contains the Lake Minatare State Recreation Area, which has a high level of use and is managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Access to North Platte is limited, since the lands are classified as Class III (natural environment), but access can be gained to several areas by means of paved and unpaved roads connecting to the local road network. The entire refuge, including the Lake Minatare Recreation Area, is closed to the public each year between October 1 and January 15. Other lakes in the Refuge include Lake Winters Creek, and Big and Little Lake Alice. Public access is available to Lake Winters Creek and Big Lake Alice, which accommodate limited fishing, boating, and swimming. North Platte is also used for hiking, nature study, and photography. Based on estimates by USFWS personnel, approximately 80 percent of the visitors are Nebraska residents, primarily from the Scottsbluff-Gering area, while approximately 20 percent are residents of Wyoming, Colorado, or other states.

Activities occurring at Bamforth and Hutton Lake refuges are limited to hiking/sightseeing and nature study. Classes from the University of Wyoming in Laramie do field work in these areas and comprise approximately 95 percent of visitors to Bamforth and Hutton Lake, with the remainder from the Cheyenne area. Access to Hutton Lake is by means of an unpaved road that runs through the area and connects the local road system; access to Bamforth is by means of a county road running along the southern portion of the area.

#### 10.1.1.2.2 Budgeting, Staffing and Law Enforcement

None of the areas is permanently staffed. North Platte is staffed on a part-time basis during the summer with operating and maintenance support from the Crescent Lake Refuge, while Bamforth and Hutton Lake are managed from the Arapaho Refuge. None of the areas has a defined budget, but operating and maintenance costs, as well as the portion of the regional staff's time devoted to each area, were estimated by USFWS personnel to be less than \$1,000 annually for Bamforth and approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000 annually each for Hutton Lake and North Platte. These figures reflect staffing and operations and maintenance costs.

Increasing use of Lake Minatare Recreation Area and increasing demand for cabins near the lake were identified as a problem for North Platte. Although the Recreation Area is closed between October 1 and January 15, users have year-round access to cabins and sometimes disturb wildlife in the refuge, particularly bald eagles and mallards. Problems identified for the Wyoming areas include a low water level in Lake Hutton, resulting in a swamp-like environment, and occasional vandalism in Bamforth. USFWS personnel report a need for increased maintenance and enforcement of regulations at all three areas.

### 10.1.1.3 State of Wyoming

#### 10.1.1.3.1 State Parks

##### 10.1.1.3.1.1 Visitation and Use

Three state parks under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Recreation Commission are located within the Wyoming portion of the region. These parks include Curt Gowdy in Laramie County, and Glendo and Guernsey in Platte County. These areas receive a large proportion of the total recreational participation generated by residents of the region. They also receive a significant amount of use from out-of-state residents, particularly from Colorado, during peak holiday weekends. A field investigation during the Fourth of July weekend indicated an approximately 50-50 split between cars from Wyoming and Colorado at Glendo and Guernsey state parks, with a somewhat smaller percentage of Colorado vehicles at Curt Gowdy.

The origins of visitors at each park as surveyed by the Commission are shown in Table 10.1.1-6. The site most heavily oriented to the Cheyenne area is Curt Gowdy State Park with almost three-fourths of its use originating from that city and its surrounding county. For Glendo and Guernsey state parks, between 10 to 13 percent of their total visitation originates from Cheyenne and other parts of Laramie County. In the case of both parks, the amount of visitation from the Cheyenne area is very close to, if not greater than, that from Platte County in which they are located. The number of Colorado visitors at the two parks is even greater than from Cheyenne (approximately twice as many). These figures indicate that Glendo and Guernsey are region-oriented in their attraction, whereas Curt Gowdy is more local-oriented.

Table 10.1.1-6

#### ORIGIN OF VISITORS TO WYOMING STATE PARKS (In Percent of Total Visitation)

<u>Origin</u>	<u>Curt Gowdy State Park</u>	<u>Glendo State Park</u>	<u>Guernsey State Park</u>
Cheyenne	72.3	9.9	13.3
Remainder of Laramie County	1.5	1.0	-
Platte County	-	9.2	16.7
Goshen County	0.8	4.1	12.6
Albany County	3.9	1.9	2.4
Remainder of Wyoming	2.8	27.0	7.2
Total Wyoming:	81.3	53.1	52.2
Colorado	5.5	19.5	26.1
Nebraska	2.3	8.8	9.3
Remainder of Other States	10.9	18.6	12.4
Total Non-Wyoming:	18.7	46.9	47.8

Source: Wyoming Recreation Commission, state park visitation sheets, 1981.



In combination, the three state parks provide a variety of land-based and water-based recreational opportunities to residents of the region. The recreational potential of these areas is increased by the fact that they include one or more reservoirs within their boundaries. Table 10.1.1-7 lists 1981 and 1982 visitation estimates in terms of total visitors and the percentage participating in each of ten recreational activities. Total visitation estimates for the three parks were fairly similar in 1981, with a total variation of only 6,500 visitors. In 1982, the total variation increased to 19,300 due to a big increase in the number of visitors at Glendo and a decline at Guernsey.

Of the ten recreation categories considered in this study, only skiing, hunting, and snowmobiling/cross-country skiing do not occur in any of the three state parks. With the exception of Curt Gowdy, the most popular activity in percentage of total visitors participating is camping. At Curt Gowdy, this activity is the second most popular after fishing. The percentage of total visitors fishing at Glendo is similar to that at Curt Gowdy, making this activity the second most popular at that area. By contrast, fishing is the least popular activity at Guernsey State Park due to the poor fishing conditions created by emptying the reservoir for several weeks each summer. Boating is a popular activity at two of the state parks but only moderately popular at Curt Gowdy. Similarly, swimming at Curt Gowdy is substantially less popular than at the other parks since it is prohibited in the park's two reservoirs in order to maintain the high water quality necessary for use as a public water supply to the city of Cheyenne. Limited swimming does occur illegally at the park.

Picnicking is a fairly popular activity at all three of the state parks. Hiking/horseback riding is consistently low in popularity for all of the parks, with less than 20 percent of total visitors participating. Off-road vehicle use is even lower, with less than 5 percent participating.

In addition to unorganized and free play activities that occur at these parks, several special programs are also held at various times during the summer. These include an invitational archery tournament (Curt Gowdy), fishing derbies (Curt Gowdy and Glendo), a sailboat regatta (Glendo), a hydroplane regatta (Guernsey), and Volksmarches (Curt Gowdy and Guernsey).

Although visitation statistics by activity are only available by actual number of visitors, total recreation visitor days spent at each park have also been determined by the Recreation Commission. These visitor days, however, are not broken out by activity. The 1981 visitor day totals for each park during the May-September period are:

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Curt Gowdy	187,493	200,676
Glendo	449,326	504,802
Guernsey	317,819	294,523

Detailed data pertaining to available capacity of the three state parks do not exist, although Commission staff indicate that overcrowding is a major problem during summer weekends, especially peak holiday weekends. A field

Table 10.1.1-7

1981 AND 1982 VISITATION AND PERCENTAGE PARTICIPATING IN EACH ACTIVITY  
AT WYOMING STATE PARKS

State Park	1981 Total (in Thousands) of Visitors	1982 Total	Percentage of Total Visitors Participation									
			Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross-Country Skiing	ORVs
Curt Gowdy	67.0	71.7	49.6	45.1	-	4.1	78.2	-	15.1	16.5	-	2.3
Glendo	73.5	82.6	83.1	50.5	-	48.6	77.4	-	68.6	15.7	-	4.7
Guernsey	68.3	63.3	65.2	57.8	-	52.7	11.1	-	49.6	19.9	-	4.1

Note: Based on visitation during the May-September period.

ORVs: off-road vehicles.

Percentages do not add to 100.00 because visitors are likely to participate in more than one activity during a single visit.

Source: Wyoming Recreation Commission, state park visitation statistics sheets for 1981 and 1982 and Visitor Use Program 1980-1982.

investigation of Glendo and Guernsey state parks during the Fourth of July weekend verified those claims, as campgrounds and picnic areas were extremely overcrowded. It is important to note, however, that the water level of both reservoirs was significantly higher than normal at that time, resulting in a reduction of available land and facilities. A field investigation of Curt Gowdy on the following weekend indicated sufficient excess capacity in relation to use.

A survey of visitors at each park was performed by the Commission to determine perceived problems. The ranking of these perceived problems in order of importance is found in Table 10.1.1-8. Overcrowding was ranked in the upper 35 percent of visitor concerns in all three cases; at Guernsey State Park it was the number one concern. Conflicting activities (which is also a visitation-related problem that is often associated with over-capacity conditions) was not a major concern at any of the three areas.

#### 10.1.1.3.1.2 Budgeting, Staffing, Law Enforcement

The Wyoming Recreation Commission receives monies for operating and maintaining the various state parks from the State's general fund. Revenues received from camping fees are placed into the general fund although there is no guarantee that they will be returned to the parks system. Individual parks are allocated money each year on the basis of perceived need. The total amount allocated to the Commission for operations and maintenance of state parks is based on the amount of money available in the fund and the particular priorities of the State at the time.

As shown in Table 10.1.1-9, Glendo has the largest annual budget of the three state parks in the region, with the largest part of the budget devoted to salaries in 2 of the 4 years shown. Except for fiscal year 1981, Guernsey has had the next largest budget. Salaries have generally comprised the greatest part of the budget at Guernsey and Curt Gowdy. Wyoming Recreation Commission personnel have indicated that they consider present levels of staffing to be inadequate at their state parks. Onsite staffing at each state park is shown in Table 10.1.1-10. None of the salary line items include law enforcement personnel, since most law enforcement is currently the responsibility of other agencies. For instance, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department is responsible for enforcing hunting and fishing laws while the U.S. Coast Guard enforces boating regulations. Criminal violations, vandalism, littering, and motor vehicle violations fall under the jurisdiction of the county sheriff's office. The park superintendent is responsible for enforcing park regulations but may require the assistance of the county sheriff for difficult situations. The fact that law enforcement within the state parks is dependent upon agencies other than park personnel makes deterring or apprehending violators a difficult task.

In the case of Curt Gowdy State Park, which is closest to the city of Cheyenne, the enforcement of criminal laws within the park is dependent upon the Laramie County Sheriff's Office. Patrols of the Happy Jack Road area, which includes the park, are made once or twice every eight hours on the average. The Sheriff's Office does not consider Curt Gowdy a major law enforcement problem, although it is recognized that many violations never get reported. Calls for assistance to the Laramie County Sheriff's Department from Curt Gowdy State Park in 1983 are summarized in Table 10.1.1-11.

Table 10.1.1-8

PERCEIVED PROBLEMS BY WYOMING STATE PARK VISITORS  
(Rank Based on Survey of Visitors)

<u>Problem</u>	<u>Curt Gowdy State Park</u>	<u>Glendo State Park</u>	<u>Guernsey State Park</u>
Litter	1	1	2
Reckless Boating	2	4	9
Water Pollution	3	9	8
Broken Picnic Tables & Grills	4	13	11
Noisy Visitors	5	2	3
Overcrowding	6	3	1
Rude Visitors	7	5	6
Vandalism	8	12	12
Reckless Driving	9	6	4
Uncontrolled Pets	10	7	7
Excessive Camping Fees	11	16	16
Inadequate Rule Enforcement	12	14	13
Unsafe Facilities	13	15	14
Traffic Congestion	14	10	5
Conflicting Activities	15	11	15
Unreasonable Regulations	16	17	17
Noisy Pets	17	8	10

Source: Wyoming Recreation Commission, state park visitation statistics sheets for 1981.

Table 10.1.1-9

## OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE BUDGETS FOR WYOMING STATE PARKS

<u>Curt Gowdy State Park</u>	<u>FY 1981</u>	<u>FY 1982</u>	<u>FY 1983</u>	<u>FY 1984</u>
Salaries	\$47,121	\$59,585	\$46,637	\$48,579
Operations and Maintenance	27,912	26,359	34,811	30,417
Contracting	0	2,000	0	0
<u>Glendo State Park</u>	<u>FY 1981</u>	<u>FY 1982</u>	<u>FY 1983</u>	<u>FY 1984</u>
Salaries	\$45,381	\$73,715	\$96,869	\$94,350
Operations and Maintenance	51,528	92,986	57,040	47,431
Contracting	53,091	0	0	0
<u>Guernsey State Park</u>	<u>FY 1981</u>	<u>FY 1982</u>	<u>FY 1983</u>	<u>FY 1984</u>
Salaries	\$34,323	\$55,144	\$52,635	\$53,068
Operations and Maintenance	\$28,766	\$45,681	\$53,865	\$37,317
Contracting	0	28	0	0

Source: Wyoming Recreation Commission, 1983.

Table 10.1.1-10

## OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE STAFFING AT WYOMING STATE PARKS

1983 - 1984 BIENNium

PARK/SITE NAME: Curt Gowdy State Park

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Park Superintendent
Part-time	4	Park Attendants (Maintenance, Fee Collection, Trash Removal)

PARK/SITE NAME: Glendo State Park

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Superintendent
	2	Lead Workers
Part-time	7	Park Attendants

PARK/SITE NAME: Guernsey State Park

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Superintendent
Part-time	5	Park Attendants

Source: Wyoming Recreation Commission.

1985 - 1986 BIENNium (PROPOSED)

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Park Superintendent
	1	Lead Worker (Maintenance Construction, etc.)
Part-time	3	Park Attendants

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Superintendent
	2	Lead Workers
Part-time	7	Park Attendants

STATUS	NUMBER	TYPE OF POSITION
Full-time	1	Superintendent
	1	Lead Worker
Part-time	4	Park Attendants

Table 10.1.1-11

CALLS FOR ASSISTANCE TO LARAMIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
FROM CURT GOWDY STATE PARK BY TYPE - 1983 (THROUGH OCTOBER)

<u>Type</u>	<u>Frequency</u>
Escort	1
Attempt to Locate	2
Property Find	1
Abandoned Vehicle	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	1
Motor Vehicle Assist	1
Suspicious Vehicle	1
Suspicious Circumstance	1
Welfare Check	2
Traffic Assist	1
Emergency Message	1
Suicide Attempt	1
Noise Complaint	1
Civil Assist	<u>1</u>
TOTAL:	20

10.1.1.3.2 Game and Fish Areas

10.1.1.3.2.1 Visitation and Use

The Wyoming portion of the region contains 19 recreation areas under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD). Table 10.1.1-1 contains a complete listing of these areas. The majority of these areas emphasize fishing and hunting as the principal recreational attractions, although several are also attractive to boaters. In most cases, other recreational activities such as camping, picnicking, swimming, etc., are performed in conjunction with the principal activities of hunting, fishing, and boating, rather than as separate attractions. That none of these areas has developed recreational facilities, except for boat ramps and designated parking and camping areas, reflects on their low relative attraction for these other activities.

Although visitor-origin data are not available for these areas, it is assumed that most of them are more locally oriented in their attraction than Medicine Bow National Forest or any of the Wyoming state parks. A field investigation of most of these areas during the 4th of July weekend and the following weekend indicated that a few do have more of a regional attraction. Lake Hattie, Twin Buttes Reservoir, and Meeboer Lake had a large percentage of cars from Colorado as well as from various parts of Wyoming. Others, such as Wheatland Reservoir No. 1, showed limited use from Colorado but did receive some visitation from the Cheyenne area in addition to local users.

These recreation areas generally experience significantly lower use levels than any of the Wyoming state parks. This is due to a variety of reasons,

including acreage limitations, minimal number of developed facilities, poor accessibility, general unfamiliarity with their existence, etc. At game and fish areas where visitation is considered high (Lake Hattie, Twin Buttes Reservoir, Wheatland Reservoir No. 3, and Greyrocks Reservoir), actual total visitors or activity days are significantly less than at Recreation Commission areas.

Visitation data by activity are sketchy or nonexistent for most of these areas. However, several available, though incomplete, sources of data can be used to present a reasonable picture of visitation at many of the areas. One source available from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) is a survey of fishing activity at most streams, lakes, and reservoirs in the state. The number of annual fishing days at each area based on this source is shown in Table 10.1.1-12. Twin Buttes Reservoir receives the heaviest fishing pressure at present, followed by Lake Hattie and Wheatland Reservoir No. 3. All other areas are substantially less utilized by fishermen. The capacity factors in the table are discussed below.

Master plans prepared by the WGFD for the three wildlife units in the region also provide some estimates of recreational use as shown in Table 10.1.1-13. It should be noted that the only wildlife unit that receives a fair amount of recreational use is Springer with almost 20,000 user days annually. This area includes both Springer and Bump Sullivan Reservoirs. These figures confirm verbal and written estimates provided by WGFD staff.

The capacity factors listed in Table 10.1.1-12 provide an indication of the additional capacity-over-use that is available at each area for fishing. These factors take into account the amount of public access, size of the water body, frequency and type of fish catches, etc. The WGFD's purpose for maintaining such figures is for guidance in developing fishing regulations and a schedule for fish stocking. These factors are considered useful (for purposes of this analysis) in identifying the overall recreational capacity of each site as well. All of the areas listed (18 of the 19 sites within the region) are below capacity in that they can handle additional fishing pressure; this is particularly true of Greyrocks Reservoir.

Discussions with WGFD staff, however, reveal that these figures do not apply in three cases. Two areas, Twin Buttes Reservoir and Meeboer Lake, are considered at capacity from an overall recreational use point of view. Due to the relatively small size of these areas in relation to the number of visitors they receive, any additional use could be viewed as an impact. The other area, Table Mountain Wildlife Unit, was stated to be at capacity for hunting although figures in Table 10.1.1-13 indicate that hunting use is actually rather low. However, despite the low figures, if all hunting activity occurs within the period of a few weeks, it is likely that Table Mountain would be at capacity during that time.

One other area that is likely to come under the jurisdiction of the WGFD in the future is Hawk Springs Reservoir in Goshen County. Presently under the jurisdiction of the Wyoming Department of Economic Planning and Development, limited recreation occurs due to limited access. Expectations are that access will be improved within the next several years and that \$170,000 will be used for development of recreation facilities.



Table 10.1.1-12  
FISHING USE AT WYOMING GAME AND FISH AREAS  
(In User Days)

<u>Recreation Areas</u>	<u>User Days</u>	<u>Capacity Factor</u>
Alsop Lake	3,500	2.0
Gelatt Lake	2,250	4.0
Grayrocks Reservoir	525	76.0
Johnson Lake	700	3.0
Johnson Reservoir No.3	4,500	9.0
Lake Hattie	15,000	4.0
Laramie River	2,850	5.0
Leasenby Lake	2,000	3.0
Meeboer Lake	6,600	4.0
North Platte River	1,402	3.0
Packers Lake	180	4.0
Rawhide Creek	69	4.0
Rock Lake	300	5.0
Springer Wildlife Unit	300	4.0
Table Mountain Wildlife Unit	60	3.0
Twin Buttes Reservoir	25,000	4.0
Wheatland Reservoir No. 1	500	10.0
Wheatland Reservoir No. 3	13,500	2.5

Note: Capacity factor is a multiplier indicating the additional amount of use that can be handled before reaching capacity.

Source: Calculated from Wyoming Game and Fish Department, "Stream, Lake and Reservoir Survey," revised June 1, 1983, and re-revised through discussions with Wyoming Game and Fish Department staff.

Table 10.1.1-13

RECREATIONAL USE AT WILDLIFE UNITS  
(In User Days)

Springer Wildlife Unit (1980 estimates):<sup>1</sup>

Boating, Swimming, Fishing, Picnicking	15,000
Hunting	<u>4,625</u>
	19,625

Table Mountain Wildlife Unit (1980 estimates):

Summer Use	450
Hunting	<u>1,950</u>
	2,400

Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit (1980 estimates):

Nonconsumptive Uses	50
Fishing	750
Hunting	<u>900</u>
	1,700

Note: 1 Includes Bump Sullivan and Springer reservoirs. The estimates have been revised from the Draft Jurisdictional EPTR to reflect updated information provided by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Source: Wyoming Game and Fish Department, assorted wildlife unit master plans.

10.1.1.3.2.2 Budgeting, Staffing, and Law Enforcement

Operations and maintenance costs associated with public recreation in game and fish areas within the four Wyoming counties in the study region are estimated by the WGFD to be \$42,500 for the 1983 fiscal year. This figure partially includes the portion of salaries spent in operating and maintaining public recreation facilities such as roadways, visitor signs, boat ramps, toilets, etc. It does not include any costs associated with nonrecreation related aspects of these areas, such as wildlife management or irrigation for farming. Sources of revenues for WGFD operation and maintenance at these areas include the sale of hunting and fishing licenses supplemented by federal excise taxes on arms, ammunition, and fishing tackle.

Of the \$42,500 allocated to recreational use, estimates are that Springer and Table Mountain wildlife units, which are generally less recreation-oriented than the other areas, have annual budgets of \$1,800 and \$700, respectively. The recreation budget for Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit is practically zero because of its undeveloped nature. Therefore, the remaining 16 areas, which are primarily fishing access areas, are assumed to split the other \$40,000 evenly, resulting in annual budgets of \$2,500 apiece.

The responsibility of operating and maintaining all game and fish areas in the four counties, as well as in Carbon County, falls upon four people. Two are part-time resident managers at Springer Wildlife Unit, while another is a part-time resident manager at Table Mountain Wildlife Unit. The fourth staff member is not resident at any facility. No staff member is solely concerned with public recreational facilities operations and maintenance since many other WGFD management duties also fall within the staff's purview. Game and fish law enforcement within the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's District 5, which includes all of the areas in the four counties and Carbon County, is the responsibility of 11 wardens. Additional discussion of game and fish law enforcement is found in Section 10.3.

#### 10.1.1.4 State of Nebraska

##### 10.1.1.4.1 Visitation and Use

Three state recreation and wildlife management areas under the jurisdiction of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) are located within the Nebraska portion of the region. These include Lake Minatare State Recreation Area (SRA), Nine Mile Creek Wildlife Management Area, and Wildcat Hills, a combined state recreation and wildlife management area, all located in Scotts Bluff County. Lake Minatare serves as a major recreation resource for residents of the Scottsbluff-Gering area; Wildcat Hills and Nine Mile Creek attract fewer visitors (mainly from the Scottsbluff-Gering area). Lake Minatare is very accessible by means of paved and unpaved roads connecting to the local road system and extending to most areas of the SRA. Nine Mile Creek and the Recreation Area portion of Wildcat Hills are also accessible by means of paved and unpaved roads connecting to the local road network. The preserve for buffalo and elk at Wildcat Hills is not open to the public.

Surveys by the NGPC on Labor Day weekend, 1982, and the 4th of July weekend, 1981 and 1982, indicate approximately 95 percent of visitors to all three areas were Nebraska residents; a Memorial Day weekend, 1982, survey by the NGPC indicated 80 percent of visitation by residents, lower but still meaningful. Based on discussions with park personnel and users, it appears that a large portion of these resident visitors are from the Scottsbluff-Gering area.

Visitation figures for Lake Minatare State Recreation Area are presented in Table 10.1.1-14.

Lake Minatare is located within and adjacent to the North Platte National Wildlife Refuge, operated and maintained by the USFWS, and is closed to the public October 1 through January 15 when access to the refuge is prohibited. No visitor counts have been made for Wildcat Hills or Nine Mile Creek but NGPC personnel have estimated annual visitation at approximately 5,000 and 2,000 people, respectively.

Table 10.1.1-14

VISITATION AT LAKE MINATARE  
STATE RECREATION AREA

<u>Year</u>	<u>Number of Visitors</u>
1980	248,452
1981	256,872
1982	265,137

Source: Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Of the ten recreation categories considered in this study, only downhill skiing is not available at any of these areas. Lake Minatare accommodates the most activities, including fishing, camping, picnicking, boating, swimming, hiking/horseback riding, and snowmobiling/cross-country skiing. Primary summer activities occurring at the lake include picnicking, fishing, camping, and swimming. Wildcat Hills supports picnicking, camping, and hiking/horseback riding, as well as hunting in the recreation area portion; the wildlife management portion includes a preserve for buffalo and elk and supports nature study and educational activities. Nine Mile Creek accommodates fishing, hunting, and hiking/horseback riding.

Detailed information concerning available capacity at the three areas does not exist. Based on discussions with NGPC personnel and observations at Lake Minatare, areas developed for camping and picnicking operate at capacity during peak summer weekends with a spillover into undeveloped areas. Boat ramps and trailer parking areas do not appear to be utilized to capacity, with approximately 10 to 30 percent of the trailer parking spaces unoccupied. The recreation area at Wildcat Hills was estimated to be currently used almost to capacity, with most campsites fully occupied on summer weekends. Estimates of use-to-capacity ratios were not available for Nine Mile Creek.

Utilization levels approaching capacity were identified as problems at Wildcat Hills and Lake Minatare in discussions with NGPC personnel. Considering the amount of undeveloped area available along the lakeshore and in adjacent areas, development of additional land could alleviate potential problems at Lake Minatare. Alcohol-related incidents were also identified as a problem at Lake Minatare. Since the SRA is located on federally owned property, alcohol is permitted and there have been several accidents (including drownings) related to alcohol use. The need for additional maintenance was identified as a concern at both Lake Minatare and Wildcat Hills.

#### 10.1.1.4.2 Budgeting, Staffing, and Law Enforcement

Funds for operating and maintaining the areas are provided by the NGPC from permit fees, leases, concessions, and general state funds. Permits are sold at Lake Minatare and an NGPC station near Wildcat Hills.

Only Lake Minatare is staffed on a permanent basis, with two full-time employees and five summer employees. The annual budget for Lake Minatare SRA is \$55,000. Wildcat Hills is unstaffed, but three to four maintenance people

are provided twice a week during the summer from a local NGPC office which administers several areas. An operating and maintenance budget for Wildcat Hills is not specifically prepared, but NGPC personnel estimate the amount to operate and maintain Wildcat Hills to be less than \$10,000 annually. Nine Mile Creek is also administered from a local NGPC office, but no budget information or estimates were available due to the relatively low level of utilization. None of the staff or budget figures include law enforcement. At all three areas, enforcement of fish and game regulations is provided by the NGPC. Criminal violations fall under the jurisdiction of county and state police.

#### 10.1.1.5 Other Recreational Lands

##### 10.1.1.5.1 Wyoming Recreation Areas

##### 10.1.1.5.1.1 Visitation and Use

Three water-based recreational areas located in the Wyoming portion of the region do not fall under the jurisdiction of any of the other major recreation suppliers. These areas include Lake Absaraka and Sloans Lake, managed by the Cheyenne Parks and Recreation Department, and Upper North Crow Reservoir under the jurisdiction of the Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities. Lake Absaraka and Sloans Lake are both located in the city of Cheyenne, one adjacent to a municipal park and the other within a municipal park. Upper North Crow Reservoir is located at the Laramie County/Albany County boundary, adjacent to the Pole Mountain area of Medicine Bow National Forest.

Almost all of the recreational use at these three areas originates from the Cheyenne area. Since Lake Absaraka and Sloans Lake comprise portions of the municipal park system, they are clearly oriented to local use. Upper North Crow Reservoir, on the other hand, is probably less well known to most people within the region and would, therefore, be most likely to attract use from the Cheyenne area rather than other parts of the region. Access to the reservoir is limited and not well marked.

Visitation estimates are virtually nonexistent for all three areas. However, general trends were determined from conversations with local recreation planners and through field investigation. The two lakes within the city receive a great deal of use, particularly during Frontier Days when use reaches capacity. Since these lakes are small, the number of users that would create overcrowded conditions is not very high; this is especially true for boating on Sloans Lake. A field investigation of these areas on several July days indicated a fair amount of use at Sloans Lake but much less at Lake Absaraka. Even though swimming is prohibited at the latter, some swimming was observed. Swimming use at Sloans Lake has been estimated to average 250 people per day during the summer season.

At Upper North Crow Reservoir, only limited use was observed during a July weekend field investigation. No more than 30 people were observed at one time, including campers, fishermen, picnickers, and swimmers. A recreation area user indicated that the reservoir rarely gets much more crowded than observed. Recreational use at the facility is permitted but not encouraged by the City, so it is expected that visitation will continue to be limited.

The only published source of visitation data for these areas relates to fishing use and capacity prepared by the WGFD. This source shows the following fishing user-days and capacity factors:

<u>Recreation Areas</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Capacity Factor</u>
Lake Absaraka	580	3.0
Sloans Lake	493	2.0
Upper North Crow Reservoir	3,750	3.0

Source: Calculated from Wyoming Game and Fish Department, "Stream, Lake and Reservoir Survey," revised June 1, 1983, and re-revised through discussions with Wyoming Game and Fish Department Staff.

#### 10.1.1.5.1.2 Budgeting, Staffing, and Law Enforcement

No operations and maintenance budgets exist for either Lake Absaraka or Upper North Crow Reservoir. Similarly, no City staff is employed in the maintenance of these two areas. Volunteers are sometimes used for that purpose.

At Sloans Lake, a staff of six is employed to manage and operate the swimming beach during the summer season; this staff includes a beach manager, an assistant beach manager, and two full-time lifeguards, all of whom work at other areas for the Cheyenne Parks and Recreation Department during the remainder of the year, and two part-time lifeguards who are employed seasonally. The 1983 budget for swimming beach operations is:

Payroll	\$4,953
Equipment	338
Contractual Facilities	101
TOTAL:	\$5,392

Law enforcement at Sloan's Lake and Lake Absaraka is the responsibility of the City of Cheyenne Police Department while Upper North Crow Reservoir Falls mostly under the jurisdiction of the Laramie County Sheriff's Department.

#### 10.1.1.5.2 Nebraska Recreation Areas

##### 10.1.1.5.2.1 Visitation and Use

Two recreational resources in the Nebraska portion of the region do not fall under the jurisdiction of the federal government or the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. These are Oliver Reservoir, located in Kimball County and managed by the South Platte Natural Resource District, and the portion of the North Platte River between the Wyoming-Nebraska state line and the Bridgeport State Recreation Area in Morrill County. This stretch of the North Platte River is designated as a canoe trail by the NGPC, which also operates and maintains the Bridgeport SRA but does not have jurisdiction over any portions of the river. Public access to the river is available at all bridges. Public access to Oliver Reservoir is provided by means of unpaved roads connecting to U.S. 30. Lodgepole State Wayside Area, operated by the NGPC, is adjacent to Oliver Reservoir and, for this study, is included as part of the recreational resources available at Oliver.

Oliver Reservoir reopened for public use in 1981 after 8 years without water. Local interest and support, particularly from the City of Kimball, Nebraska, and the Town of Pine Bluffs, Wyoming, were a major factor in reopening the reservoir. Based on discussions with NGPC and Resource District personnel, it appears that the NGPC intends to acquire and operate Oliver Reservoir within the next several years, pending availability of funds.

Visitation or use data are not available for the North Platte River. Visitation data for Oliver Reservoir is limited but, based on discussions with District personnel and field observations, it appears that the majority of users are from the Kimball area, with the remainder mainly from Pine Bluffs and other nearby communities. Annual visitation at Oliver Reservoir is estimated at approximately 10,000 people. Field surveys over the 4th of July weekends in 1982 and 1983 estimated the number of visitors at 3,500 and 2,800, respectively.

Fishing, camping, and rafting are the primary activities along the North Platte River. Fishing, picnicking, camping, swimming, and boating appear to be the principal activities at Oliver Reservoir. Estimates are that current levels of boating are at or near capacity, while other activities occur at approximately 50 percent of capacity. Areas available for boating are somewhat constrained by the presence of moss and algae in the reservoir, a problem that may decrease over time since the lake has contained water for only a relatively short time.

#### 10.1.1.5.2.2 Budgeting, Staffing, and Law Enforcement

Recreational use of the North Platte River involves no staff or budget. Three campsites are located along the stretch designated by the NGPC as a canoe trail (one is private, one is provided by the Scottsbluff Kiwanis, and the third is part of the Bridgeport SRA) but there is no staff with responsibility for recreational use of the river in Scotts Bluff County.

There is no permanent staff for Oliver Reservoir, although administrative and managerial support is provided by Resource District staff. During the summer, a part-time maintenance person is assigned to Oliver and the NGPC provides some maintenance assistance. The current budget for Oliver Reservoir, including the portion of the South Platte Natural Resources District staff time devoted to the reservoir, is estimated to be less than \$25,000 annually. The master concept plan for Oliver Reservoir estimates annual budget requirements to be approximately \$65,000; the NGPC has estimated its budget requirements to operate and maintain Oliver Reservoir as a recreation area at approximately \$55,000 per year. It should be noted that grants have been received by the South Platte Natural Resource District for operation and maintenance of Oliver as a recreational resource, and volunteer workers have participated in clean-up, tree planting, and other activities; the estimated budget does not reflect this outside support. Nevertheless, maintenance was identified as a current problem and the need is unlikely to decrease in the future. In addition, financial assistance will be required if development of new recreational facilities is to continue.

#### 10.1.2 Projected Baseline

The projected baseline scenario assumes existing trends at recreational areas in the study region to continue with visitation and participation remaining approximately equal to present levels. This assumption is made because variation in use for resource-based recreation facilities involves a number of parameters, of which population is but one. The effect of using existing conditions is to hold all other parameters constant and vary the population only. This reduces the error that would result from estimates of other parameters. Medicine Bow National Forest would continue to be the most important recreational resource in the region, drawing visitors from throughout the West and Midwest, as well as the rest of the United States. National wildlife refuges would continue to experience relatively low levels of utilization, while most smaller recreational areas would continue primarily to serve local communities.

In terms of baseline (existing) activity days, as shown in Table 10.1.2-1, Medicine Bow National Forest would exceed all other recreational resources in the region by a ratio of approximately 2.5 to 1 under assumed baseline conditions. The Medicine Bow unit of the Forest would remain the most utilized area in all activities except ORV use. Camping would remain the most popular activity in terms of activity days, followed by picnicking, fishing, snowmobiling/cross-country skiing, hunting, and hiking/horseback riding. Adequate capacity would continue to exist at the Forest during most of the year.

Wyoming state parks would continue to have a relatively high level of utilization, particularly Glendo State Park. Camping would remain the most popular activity in terms of activity days, followed by fishing, picnicking, and boating. Boating activity would continue to concentrate at Glendo. High visitation would continue to be at or over capacity on peak summer weekends.

Activity days at WGF areas would continue to be relatively low except for Lake Hattie, Twin Buttes Reservoir, and Wheatland Reservoir No. 3. Fishing would continue to be the most popular activity at most fish and game areas with boating and camping remaining popular at Lake Hattie, Meeboer Lake, Springer Wildlife Unit, Twin Buttes Reservoir, and Wheatland Reservoir No. 3. Visitation at most of the game and fish areas would continue to be below capacity.

Among Nebraska state recreation areas (SRAs) and wildlife management areas (WMAs), Lake Minatare would remain most popular in terms of total activity days. Camping would continue to have the highest number of activity days there, followed by picnicking, fishing, swimming and boating. Picnicking, camping, and hiking/horseback riding would continue to be the most popular activities at Wildcat Hills, the second most utilized area in terms of activity days of Nebraska recreation and wildlife management and WMAs in the region.

Sloans Lake and Oliver Reservoir would remain the most popular areas under other jurisdictions. In terms of activity days, swimming would continue to be the most popular activity at Sloans Lake, while camping and picnicking would remain most popular at Oliver Reservoir, followed by swimming and fishing. During most of the year, visitation at these areas would continue to be below capacity, although some activities would be at capacity at certain times.



Table 10.1.2-1  
BASELINE VISITATION AT RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION AREAS (EXISTING CONDITIONS)  
(In Thousands of Activity Days)

Recreation Area	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snow- mobiling/ Cross Country	Off- Road Vehi- cles	Total
<u>Wyoming</u>											
Medicine Bow National Forest (Pole Mountain Unit)	104.8	49.8	-	-	73.9	38.1	-	54.0	26.4	5.1	352.1
Medicine Bow National Forest (Medicine Bow Unit)	160.8	133.2	12.9	4.0	118.9	113.6	24.3	81.9	153.9	8.0	811.5
Medicine Bow National Forest (Hayden Unit)	84.6	79.2	-	-	22.5	14.4	9.0	12.6	3.8	8.7	234.8
Medicine Bow National Forest (Laramie Peak Unit)	38.2	81.0	-	1.6	26.7	23.3	-	27.9	32.2	22.7	253.6
North Platte National Wildlife Refuge	-	1.2	-	0.6	1.5	-	0.9	0.9	-	-	5.1
Bamforth National Wildlife Refuge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	-	0.0
Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	0.5
Curt Gowdy State Park	98.7	49.7	-	-	86.2	-	16.6	18.2	-	2.5	271.9
Glendo State Park	262.2	74.8	-	72.0	114.7	-	101.6	23.3	-	7.0	655.6

Table 10.1.2-1 Continued, Page 2 of 4  
 BASELINE VISITATION AT RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION AREAS (EXISTING CONDITIONS)  
 (In Thousands of Activity Days)

Recreation Area	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snow- mobiling/ Cross Country	Off- Road Vehi- cles	Total
Guernsey State Park	164.7	71.8	-	65.4	13.8	-	57.8	24.7	-	5.1	403.4
Alsop Lake	-	-	-	-	3.5	-	-	-	-	-	3.5
Gelatt Lake	.1	-	-	-	2.2	.2	-	-	-	-	2.5
Grayrocks Reservoir	.1	-	-	-	.5	.2	.1	-	-	-	.9
Hawk Springs Reservoir	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.0
Johnson Lake	-	-	-	-	.7	-	-	-	-	-	.7
Johnson Reservoir #3	-	.2	-	.2	4.5	.1	.1	-	-	-	5.1
Lake Hattie	9.2	-	-	4.3	18.3	-	7.8	-	-	-	39.6
Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit	.1	-	-	-	.7	.9	-	-	-	-	1.7
Laramie River	.4	-	-	-	2.8	-	-	-	-	-	3.2
Leasenby Lake	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	2.0
Meeboer Lake	3.3	-	-	-	6.6	.1	2.8	-	-	-	12.8
North Platte River (Glendo Power Plant Site)	.3	-	-	-	1.4	.1	-	-	-	-	1.8
Packers Lake	.1	-	-	-	.2	-	.4	-	-	-	.7

Table 10.1.2-1 Continued, Page 3 of 4  
 BASELINE VISITATION AT RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION AREAS (EXISTING CONDITIONS)  
 (In Thousands of Activity Days)

Recreation Area	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snow- mobiling/ Cross Country	Off- Road Vehi- cles	Total
Rawhide Creek	-	-	-	-	.1	.5	-	-	-	-	.6
Rock Lake	-	-	-	-	.3	.1	.1	-	-	-	.5
Springer Wildlife Unit 1	4.6	4.6	-	1.0	.3	4.6	4.6	-	-	-	19.7
Table Mountain Wild- life Unit	.2	-	-	-	.2	1.9	-	-	-	-	2.3
Twin Buttes Reservoir	3.6	-	-	1.6	25.0	-	2.8	-	-	-	33.0
Wheatland Reservoir #1	.3	.3	-	-	.5	-	.3	-	-	-	1.4
Wheatland Reservoir #3	7.0	-	-	-	13.5	-	7.0	-	-	-	27.5
Upper North Crow Reservoir	.9	.9	-	.9	3.7	-	.9	-	-	-	7.3
Lake Absaraka	-	-	-	-	.6	-	.1	-	-	-	.7
Sloans Lake	-	4.8	-	19.2	.5	-	1.4	-	-	-	25.9
<b>Nebraska</b>											
Lake Minatare State Recreation Area	143.2	119.3	-	71.6	95.4	-	35.8	6.0	2.7	6.0	480.0
Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area/Wild- life Management Area	3.4	4.1	-	-	-	.7	-	3.1	-	-	11.3
Nine Mile Creek Wild- life Management Area	-	-	-	-	1.8	-	-	.2	-	-	2.0

Table 10.1.2-1 Continued, Page 4 of 4  
BASELINE VISITATION AT RESOURCE-BASED RECREATION AREAS (EXISTING CONDITIONS)  
(In Thousands of Activity Days)

Recreation Area	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snow- mobiling/ Cross Country	Off- Road Vehi- cles	Total
North Platte River (Nebraska)	2.3	.4	-	-	.5	-	3.1	-	-	-	6.3
Oliver Reservoir	7.5	7.5	-	6.2	6.2	.6	3.8	-	-	-	31.8

Notes: 1 Estimates of fishing and hunting activity were revised from the Draft jurisdictional  
EPFR based on updated information provided by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.  
Includes Bump Sullivan and Springer Reservoirs.

2 Dashes indicate no activity. Zeros indicate fewer than 50 activity days.

### 10.1.3 Project Impacts

Tables 10.1.3-1 and 10.1.3-2 summarize the anticipated increases in activity participation pressure at each of the resource-based recreational areas within the region during the project peak year (1987) when population immigration is greatest and the settlement year (1991), and on, when population immigration levels off. These anticipated increases, determined from the computer gravity model developed for this study, form the basis from which to evaluate potential impacts on each area and/or recreation supply agency. An explanation of the gravity model is located in Appendix A. A detailed discussion of the model is located in Appendix C of the Final Land Use EPTR. Both tables include two lines of numbers associated with each recreational area listed; the first line shows the total increase in activity days of pressure generated by project-related or induced population in Cheyenne, Wheatland, and Torrington, while the second set of numbers indicates the percentage increase of that pressure over baseline activity. Cheyenne, Wheatland, and Torrington, together, account for the largest average annual immigrant population increase in absolute numbers in the peak year (1987). While it is acknowledged that other communities will experience immigrant population influx, the three communities mentioned contribute most of the potential increase in recreational use in that year.

It is important to note that the anticipated increase in activity participation pressure does not necessarily indicate that actual activity participation would increase by the same amount or percentage as indicated in the table. This is due to the fact that other factors, such as management restrictions placed on recreational use and/or perceived quality of recreational experience as it relates to capacity limitations, also affect the actual amount of use that occurs at a particular area. For instance, restrictions are placed on the number of hunting licenses, particularly for big game, that may be purchased for a given area. As a result, much of the anticipated growth in hunting activity may never occur or it may occur in other areas farther away where more hunting is permitted. Similarly, some induced pressure for participation in other activities may also not result in actual participation at the areas forecast. This happens when visitation approaches perceived capacity resulting in a decrease in quality of the recreational experience. Potential users may, therefore, choose to recreate elsewhere.

If potential users perceive that conditions are too crowded or that various activities conflict with each other at a given recreation area, they may travel to a different area or not participate in the activity at all. Thus, the pressure to participate can exist although the actual level of participation may never reach that level of pressure.

The off-road vehicle (ORV) values are less reliable than data for other activities because of the generally unrepresentative data base for that activity. It is probable that those areas identified by agencies for ORV use in the existing conditions analysis do not include all areas actually used for this activity. Therefore, the impact assessment shows overestimates of project-induced increases in pressure because of the limited number of areas designated for existing ORV use to which population increases can be applied. As a result, ORV values are included only for reference without any conclusions being drawn.

Table 10.1.3-1

INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS AND PERCENTAGES, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING PROJECT PEAK YEAR (1987)

Recreational Areas	Activities										
	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country	ORV Use TOTAL	
Medicine Bow National Forest (Pole Mountain Unit)	1852. 1.8	1210. 2.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2387. 3.2	3276. 8.6	0. 0.0	1903. 3.5	893. 3.4	535. 10.5	12057. 3.4
Medicine Bow National Forest (Medicine Bow Unit)	865. 0.5	987. 0.7	77. 0.6	129. 3.2	1187. 1.0	2967. 2.6	234. 1.0	899. 1.1	1617. 1.1	256. 3.2	9218. 1.1
Medicine Bow National Forest (Hayden Unit)	247. 0.3	319. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	123. 0.5	204. 1.4	47. 0.5	76. 0.6	22. 0.6	151. 1.7	1190. 0.5
Medicine Bow National Forest (Laramie Peak Unit)	162. 0.4	481. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	224. 0.8	476. 2.0	0. 0.0	273. 1.0	295. 0.9	584. 2.6	2494. 1.0
North Platte National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	4. 0.3	0. 0.0	7. 1.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	3. 0.4	5. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	19. 0.5
Banforth National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 1.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 1.6
Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 1.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 1.7
Curt Gowdy State	3252. 3.3	2249. 4.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5151. 6.0	0. 0.0	1009. 6.0	1184. 6.5	0. 0.0	508. 19.5	13354. 4.9
Glendo State Park	1681. 0.6	670. 0.9	0. 0.0	2368. 3.3	1463. 1.3	0. 0.0	1031. 1.0	345. 1.5	0. 0.0	271. 3.9	7829. 1.2
Guernsey State Park	1163. 0.7	709. 1.0	0. 0.0	2309. 3.5	200. 1.5	0. 0.0	640. 1.1	411. 1.7	0. 0.0	217. 4.3	5650. 1.4
Alsop Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	60. 1.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	60. 1.7
Gelatt Lake	1. 0.8	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	34. 1.5	8. 4.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	43. 1.7
Grayrocks Reservoir	1. 0.9	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	9. 1.8	9. 4.3	1. 1.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	20. 2.2
Hawk Springs Reservoir	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	23. 2.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	23. 2.3

TABLE 10.1.3-1, Continued  
INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS AND PERCENTAGES, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING PROJECT PEAK YEAR (1987)

Recreational Areas	Activities										Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country	ORV Use	Total
	Camping	Picnicking	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating								
Johnson Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 1.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 1.2
Johnson Reservoir #3	6. 2.8	8. 4.0	0. 0.0	241. 5.3	13. 13.0	3. 3.3					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	292. 5.5
Lake Hattie	64. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	236. 1.3	0. 0.0	98. 1.3					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	581. 1.5
Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit	1. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 1.1	25. 2.7	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	33. 1.9
Laramie River	3. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	39. 1.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	42. 1.3
Leavenby Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	25. 1.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	25. 1.3
Meeboer Lake	26. 0.8	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	97. 1.5	4. 3.9	41. 1.4					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	168. 1.3
North Platte River (Glendo Power Plan Site)	2. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	17. 1.2	3. 2.9	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	22. 1.2
Packers Lake	1. 0.9	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 2.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5. 1.7
Pawhide Creek	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 1.2	13. 2.7	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	15. 2.4
Rock Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	72. 7.4	18. 18.1	4. 4.5					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	45. 9.0
Springer Wildlife Unit	58. 1.3	82. 1.8	0. 0.0	9. 3.0	283. 6.2	91. 2.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	582. 3.0
Fable Mountain Wildlife Unit	2. 0.8	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 1.8	76. 4.0	0. 0.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	81. 3.5
Twin Buttes Reservoir	29. 0.8	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	369. 1.5	0. 0.0	41. 1.4					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	517. 1.6
Wheatland Reservoir #1	5. 1.5	6. 2.1	0. 0.0	14. 2.9	0. 0.0	6. 2.1					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	22. 2.3
Wheatland Reservoir #3	40. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	146. 1.1	0. 0.0	68. 1.0					0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	254. 0.9

TABLE 10.1.3-1. CONTINUED  
INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS AND PERCENTAGES, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING PROJECT YEAR (1987)

Recreational Areas	Activities											ORV Use	TOTAL
	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating	Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country				
Upper North Crow Reservoir	16. 1.8	23. 2.5	0. 0.0	101. 11.2	123. 3.3	0. 0.0	30. 3.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	293. 4.0	
Lake Absaroka	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	15. 2.6	0. 0.0	3. 2.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	18. 2.6	
Sloans Lake	0. 0.0	94. 2.0	0. 0.0	1729. 9.0	13. 2.6	0. 0.0	37. 2.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1873. 7.2	
Lake Minatare State Recreation Area	377. 0.3	440. 0.4	0. 0.0	903. 1.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	148. 0.4	39. 0.7	17. 0.6	94. 1.6	2018. 0.5		
Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area/Wildlife Management Area	11. 0.3	19. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	24. 0.8	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	55. 0.5	
Nine Mile Creek Wildlife Management Area	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.6	
North Platte River	10. 0.5	3. 0.6	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	22. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.6	
Oliver Reservoir	47. 0.6	64. 0.9	0. 0.0	229. 3.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	41. 1.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	381. 1.5	

Note: 1. First line of each entry indicates anticipated increase in activity days. Second line indicates percentage change over baseline.



Table 10.1.3-2

INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING SETTLEMENT YEAR (1991) AND BEYOND

Recreational Areas	Activities										Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country	ORV Use	TOTAL
	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating							
Medicine Bow National Forest (Pole Mountain Unit)	628. 0.6	407. 0.8	0.0	0.0	779. 1.1	1120. 2.9	0.0	625. 1.2	291. 1.1	182. 3.6	4033. 1.1			
Medicine Bow National Forest (Medicine Bow Unit)	280. 0.2	315. 0.2	20. 0.2	44. 1.1	363. 0.3	969. 0.9	80. 0.3	275. 0.3	492. 0.3	83. 1.0	2921. 0.4			
Medicine Bow National Forest (Hayden Unit)	79. 0.1	101. 0.1	0.0	0.0	37. 0.2	66. 0.5	16. 0.2	23. 0.2	7. 0.2	48. 0.6	376. 0.2			
Medicine Bow National Forest (Laramie Peak Unit)	37. 0.1	108. 0.1	0.0	0.0	46. 0.2	112. 0.5	0.0	53. 0.2	58. 0.2	132. 0.6	546. 0.2			
North Platte National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	1. 0.1	0.0	2. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.1	1. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 0.1			
Bamforth National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.5			
Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	3. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	3. 0.5			
Curt Gowdy State	1123. 1.1	770. 1.6	0.0	0.0	1724. 2.0	0. 0.0	361. 2.2	400. 2.2	0. 0.0	176. 6.8	4556. 1.7			
Glendo State Park	338. 0.1	151. 0.2	0.0	666. 0.9	298. 0.3	0. 0.0	285. 0.3	67. 0.3	0. 0.0	62. 0.9	1916. 0.3			
Guernsey State Park	253. 0.2	150. 0.2	0.0	629. 1.0	37. 0.3	0. 0.0	169. 0.3	73. 0.3	0. 0.0	47. 0.9	1359. 0.3			
Alsop Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	19. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	19. 0.5			
Gelatt Lake	0. 0.3	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	11. 0.5	3. 1.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	14. 0.5			
Grayrocks Reservoir	0. 0.2	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	0. 0.3	2. 1.0	0. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 0.5			
Hawk Springs Reservoir	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0.0	0.0	4. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 0.4			

TABLE 10.1.3-2, CONTINUED  
INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING SETTLEMENT YEAR (1991) AND BEYOND

Recreational Areas	Activities							Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country	ORV Use	TOTAL
	Camping	Picnicking	Skating	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating				
Johnson Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 0.3
Johnson Reservoir #3	0. 0.2	1. 0.3	0. 0.0	3. 1.5	19. 0.4	1. 1.2	0. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	25. 0.5
Lake Mattie	21. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	62. 1.4	74. 0.4	0. 0.0	34. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	192. 0.5
Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit	0. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 0.2	6. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 0.5
Laramie River	1. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	12. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	13. 0.4
Leavenby Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 0.4
Meeboer Lake	9. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	31. 0.5	1. 1.3	14. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	55. 0.4
North Platte River (Glendo Power Plan Site)	0. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 0.3	1. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5. 0.3
Packers Lake	0. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.3
Ramhide Creek	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.3	3. 0.7	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	4. 0.6
Rock Lake	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.5	1. 1.3	0. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	3. 0.6
Springer Wildlife Unit	11. 0.2	14. 0.3	0. 0.0	14. 1.4	1. 0.4	52. 1.1	20 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	113. 0.6
Table Mountain Wildlife Unit	0. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	1. 0.4	19. 1.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	21. 0.9
Twin Buttes Reservoir	10. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	27. 1.7	117. 0.5	0. 0.0	14. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	167. 0.5

TABLE 10.1.3-2. CONTINUED  
INCREASED RECREATIONAL PRESSURE, IN ACTIVITY DAYS, AT RESOURCE-BASED  
RECREATIONAL AREAS DURING SETTLEMENT YEAR (1991) AND BEYOND

Recreational Areas	Activities							Hiking/ Horseback Riding	Snowmobiling/ Cross Country	ORV Use	TOTAL
	Camping	Picnicking	Skiing	Swimming	Fishing	Hunting	Boating				
Wheatland Reservoir #1	1. 0.3	1. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	2. 0.5	0. 0.0	1. 0.5	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	6. 0.4
Wheatland Reservoir #3	11. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	38. 0.3	0. 0.0	21. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	70. 0.3
Upper North Crow Reservoir	6. 0.6	8. 0.8	0. 0.0	35. 3.9	40. 1.1	0. 0.0	11. 1.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	99. 1.4
Lake Absaroka	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5. 0.9	0. 0.0	1. 1.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	6. 0.9
Stoans Lake	0. 0.0	33. 0.7	0. 0.0	607. 3.2	4. 0.9	0. 0.0	13. 1.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	658. 2.5
Lake Minatare State Recreation Area	75. 0.1	85. 0.1	0. 0.0	235. 0.3	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	36. 0.1	6. 0.1	3. 0.1	19. 0.3	459. 0.1
Wildcat Hills State Recreation Area/Wildlife Management Area	3. 0.1	5. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	12. 0.1
Nine Mile Creek Wildlife Management Area	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.1
North Platte River	2. 0.1	1. 0.1	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	5. 0.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	8. 0.1
Oliver Reservoir	15. 0.2	20. 0.3	0. 0.0	76. 1.2	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	14. 0.4	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	0. 0.0	125. 0.5

Note: 1 First line of each entry indicates anticipated increase in activity days. Second line indicates percentage change over baseline.

Before discussing the impacts associated with specific recreational areas and jurisdictions, the implications for law enforcement problems associated with increased visitation attributed to project-related immigrants deserve some mention. It is likely that as visitation at recreational areas increases, the potential for violations of park regulations, off-road vehicle abuse, vandalism, littering, criminal activities, and other violations would also increase. These are actions that are directly linked to population and therefore would be expected to increase with population growth. Therefore, areas forecast to experience the greatest absolute increases in project-induced activity days would be most likely to experience law enforcement problems as well. It is important to note, however, that the socioeconomic background of the population base would influence the rate at which law enforcement problems would occur. In general, a predominance of professional/managerial type of workers and their families would not be as likely to cause problems as a predominance of single laborers, unskilled workers, and/or unemployed workers. Much of the immigrant population to the region is considered to be of the first type and, therefore, the potential for violations by that portion of the population is low. Less than 50 percent of the overall project-induced population to the region during the project peak year is attributed to non-professional or non-managerial workers and their families. This percentage includes construction workers, military personnel, and transients. Details of the impact population breakdown are provided in the demographic discussion in the Final Socioeconomics EPTR and the law enforcement discussion in the Final Public Services and Facilities EPTR.

Another issue associated with the project-related immigrant population is the potential for transients to camp at nearby recreational areas while looking for employment. Most of the transient immigrant population associated with the project is forecast to occur at Cheyenne, with smaller numbers occurring at Wheatland, Torrington, Kimball, and Scottsbluff-Gering during certain years. The annual average Cheyenne transient population is expected to peak at 324 in 1985 and then drop off to between 200 and 300 from 1986 to 1989. In 1991, the transient population totally dissipates. Details of transient growth patterns during the project construction period are provided in the Final Socioeconomics EPTR.

It has been estimated that approximately 55 percent of the transients coming into the region will not be financially capable of supporting themselves during their stay. The procedure used to develop this estimate is described in the Final Public Services and Facilities EPTR. Of this group, it is possible that some percentage will seek residence at nearby regional recreational areas since such areas offer free or inexpensive housing options for persons with campers, vans, tents, etc. Depending on the length of stay, the use of public campgrounds by transients could impact the ability of the campgrounds to accommodate potential recreational campers during peak recreation periods. Areas closest to Cheyenne would be most likely to experience this type of transient impact.

#### 10.1.3.1 U.S. Forest Service

Medicine Bow National Forest will experience the greatest overall absolute increase in recreational pressure of any recreational area within the region. Almost half the total increase in recreational pressure at the Forest will be experienced at the Pole Mountain Unit, while most of the rest will be

experienced at the Medicine Bow Unit. Increased pressure at the Hayden and Laramie Peak units will be relatively minor.

The activity with the greatest increase in participation pressure in the four Medicine Bow units is hunting. This activity is projected to increase by 3.7 percent in the peak year and is expected to drop to 2.6 percent by 1991. The increase in actual hunting activity at Medicine Bow is unlikely to approach these levels because of restrictions on the number of hunting licenses that would be made available.

Other activities that will experience relatively high increases are hiking/horseback riding (1.8%), fishing (1.6%), snowmobiling/cross-country skiing (1.3%), picnicking (0.9%) and camping (0.8%). In the settlement year these drop to 0.5 percent or less.

Based on existing theoretical capacity data (Section 10.1.1.1), the increased pressure can be accommodated by existing facilities. This is especially true since much of the induced activity, such as camping and fishing, occurs at undeveloped areas within the Forest where there are essentially no capacity constraints. Therefore, the impact of increased recreational activity pressure on the quality of the recreational experience at this resource is minimal.

In terms of staffing need, a comparison of existing staffing-to-total activity days at the Forest yields a staff-to-visitation ratio that can be applied to the total increased activity day pressure attributed to the project. An explanation of how this ratio is derived is found in Appendix A. Based on this ratio, the following additional full-time equivalent staff needs are predicted:

	<u>Current Staff</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>1987 need</u>	<u>1992 need</u>
Permanent Staff	8	.000005	0.12	0.04
Seasonal Staff	19	.000012	0.29	0.09
Human Resource Program Workers	24	.000015	0.36	0.11
Volunteers	73	.000044	1.10	0.34

Essentially, therefore, only one additional volunteer would be required during project peak year for the Forest Service to continue to provide the same level of recreational service that it would provide without the project. No additional staff of any type would be required during either the peak or settlement years.

A potential increase in law enforcement problems could develop at the Pole Mountain Unit as a result of the increased use at that area attributed to immigrants. Albany County Sheriff's Department personnel state that an increase in activity in this area could have a multiplier effect on the number of complaints. It is likely, however, that this would be true during periods of peak use only.

#### 10.1.3.2 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The three national wildlife refuges in the region will experience only minimal pressure for additional recreational activities and facilities if the project is implemented. In the peak year (1987), the two refuges in Wyoming (Bamforth and Hutton Lake) would experience less than a 2 percent increase in pressure, while North Platte in Nebraska would experience an increase of only 19 activity days during 1987. In the settlement year (1991), and on, all three areas would experience a 0.5 percent increase or less in recreational pressure.

Bamforth and Hutton Lake would both experience negligible additional pressure in demand for hiking, with Bamforth accommodating pressure for 2 additional activity days and Hutton Lake an additional 8 activity days. In 1991, pressure for additional activity days would decline to 4 days for North Platte and 3 days for Hutton Lake, with no additional pressure on Bamforth.

The minimal increases in participation pressure are primarily due to low levels of current use, and it appears likely that such negligible increases can be accommodated without impacts on users, budgets, or staffing at any of the three areas.

#### 10.1.3.3 State of Wyoming

##### 10.1.3.3.1 State Parks

Of the three Wyoming state parks within the region, the greatest increased recreational pressure attributed to the project will occur at Curt Gowdy; in fact, total increased activity days at Curt Gowdy is almost twice as high as at Glendo and more than twice that projected for Guernsey.

Not counting ORV use, the increase in activity participation pressure at Curt Gowdy is the greatest in respect to fishing (a 6 percent increase in 1987 and 2 percent in 1991). The other activities at Curt Gowdy that also experience substantial increases during the peak year 1987 are hiking (6.5%), boating (6.0%), picnicking (4.5%), and camping (3.3%). In the settlement year 1991, and beyond, these activities experience an increase over baseline of 1 to 2 percent.

In terms of percentage increase at Glendo and Guernsey state parks, the areas are similar. The greatest increase occurs in swimming (3.5% at Guernsey and 3.3% at Glendo during peak year). This is probably due to the general lack of adequate swimming areas close to the city of Cheyenne. All other activities increase by approximately 1.7 percent or less during peak year. During the settlement year, and on, all activities including swimming increase by 1 percent or less.

The Wyoming Recreation Commission has indicated that all of these state parks become very congested during peak holiday weekends. A field inspection of these areas during the Fourth of July weekend, 1983, indicated that they were quite congested. It is likely that the increased activity pressure generated by the project at these areas will contribute to the already congested conditions during peak weekends, especially during project peak year. This increase will likely have an effect on quality of the recreational experience. The impact would be noticed less over the long term.

Using the proposed 1985-1986 staffing figures supplied by the Wyoming Recreation Commission as existing/baseline staff at each park, ratios of staff-to-visitation indicate that no additional staffing is required for the existing level of recreational service to continue during peak year. State park officials point out that present staffing levels are inadequate and it is possible that the projected full-time equivalent staff needs shown below understate the actual manpower needs.

<u>1985-86 Staff (Projected)</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>1987 Need</u>	<u>1992 Need</u>
Curt Gowdy			
1 Full-time	.00368	0.05	0.02
3 Part-time	.01103	0.15	0.05
Glendo			
3 Full-time	.00458	0.04	0.01
7 Part-time	.01068	0.08	0.02
Guernsey			
1 Full-time	.00248	0.01	0.00
5 Part-time	.01239	0.07	0.02

Because of the proximity of Curt Gowdy State Park to the primary impact population center at Cheyenne, there is particular concern for this area in terms of the transients issue stated earlier. Because a \$5.00 seasonal permit allows the opportunity to camp at a specific state park for up to two-week periods at a time during the season, the potential for abuse of the two-week rule exists. Transients could theoretically move from campsite to campsite every two weeks. No regulations currently exist that would prohibit such actions although the park superintendent can request that the people leave. If they refuse, the county sheriff's office can be called although it does not have any official jurisdiction in enforcement of park regulations. In this regard, transients that overstay their welcome could create impacts when an insufficient number of campsites are available for use by recreational campers.

#### 10.1.3.3.2 Game and Fish Areas

Of the 20 game and fish areas considered in this study (19 existing and 1 future), only 5 would experience total recreation pressure increases of greater than 200 activity days during peak year. These include Springer Wildlife Unit (582), Lake Hattie (581), Twin Buttes Reservoir (517), Johnson Reservoir #3 (292), and Wheatland Reservoir #3 (254). During the project settlement year, these drop below 200 activity days in all cases.

In all but seven areas, the largest absolute increase in activity pressure at each area is in fishing. The exceptions are Springer Wildlife Unit, Rawhide Creek, Table Mountain Wildlife Unit, Wick Brothers Big Game Unit, Pennock Wildlife Unit and Laramie Peak Wildlife Unit, in which the hunting pressure is greater than the fishing pressure, and Grayrocks Reservoir, at which the increases in hunting and fishing pressure are equal.

The only areas that exhibit increases in pressure of greater than 100 activity days for activities other than fishing during the peak year are Lake Hattie

and Springer Wildlife Unit. The 182 activity day increase for swimming at Lake Hattie represents a percentage change of 4.2 over baseline conditions. The 283 activity day increase in hunting at Springer Wildlife Unit represents a 6.2 percent increase. In 1991 the activity day totals drop below 100 days in both cases.

As described in Section 10.1.1.3, two of the areas forecast to have relatively large pressure increases resulting from the project (i.e., Twin Buttes Reservoir and Meeboer Lake) are already at theoretical capacity. However, WGFD data reveals that four times the existing fishing use can adequately be handled at both areas. Since the majority of the increased recreational pressure at both areas is related to fishing, it is likely then that these small pressure increases would not result in any serious impact. Quality of the recreational experience would not noticeably change.

No new personnel would be required to continue providing services at the existing level. Only four staff members currently maintain all of the game and fish areas within the region, as well as some outside the region.

#### 10.1.3.4 State of Nebraska

Lake Minatare State Recreation Area, Nine Mile Creek Wildlife Management Area, and Wildcat Hills would each experience a 0.5 percent overall increase in utilization pressure in the peak year if the proposed project were implemented. In the settlement year, the increase in overall recreational pressure on each area would be approximately 0.1 percent. Such minimal incremental pressures for recreational activities and facilities reflect the distance of these areas from Cheyenne and the relatively low percentage of current recreational participants from the Cheyenne area.

At Lake Minatare, swimming would experience the most additional pressure, with an increase of 1.3 percent or 903 activity days in the peak year. Picnicking would experience pressure for 440 additional activity days in the peak year, while camping and boating would experience pressure for an additional 377 and 148 activity days, respectively. Based on discussions with NGPC personnel, developed areas at Lake Minatare currently operate at or near capacity during peak periods. The minimal increased pressure for swimming, picnicking, camping, and boating, however, would be unlikely to cause any additional impact on quality of the recreational experience. The projected increase would justify no additional staff at Lake Minatare, based on current levels of staffing and participation.

Wildcat Hills would experience pressure for an additional 55 activity days in the peak year, while Nine Mile Creek would experience pressure for only 1 additional activity day. No important impacts would occur at Nine Mile Creek as a result of the increased pressure, and the impact at Wildcat Hills would be felt only minimally on picnicking, hiking/horseback riding, and camping during peak periods such as holiday weekends during the summer. Based on current staffing levels, no additional staff would be justified at Nine Mile Creek or Wildcat Hills. Ratios and full-time equivalent staff needs are shown below.



<u>Current Staff</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>1987 Need</u>	<u>1992 Need</u>
Lake Minatare			
2 Full-time	.00417	0.01	0.00
5 Part-time	.01042	0.02	0.00
Wildcat Hills			
4 Part-time	.35398	0.02	0.00

#### 10.1.3.5 Other Recreational Lands

##### 10.1.3.5.1 Wyoming Recreation Areas

Of the three other Wyoming recreational areas within the region, the one expected to receive the most increased recreational pressure from project-related population is Sloans Lake in Cheyenne. Most of that pressure is related to swimming, since Sloans Lake provides Cheyenne residents with their closest outdoor swimming opportunity. During the peak year, increased pressure of 1,729 activity days of swimming is forecast to occur, representing a 9 percent increase over baseline. Over the long term, the increased pressure drops to 607 activity days or a change of 3.2 percent.

It is likely that the amount of swimming pressure forecast is overestimated as other swimming alternatives within the city do exist; there are private, semipublic and municipal pools within the urban area.

Although the swimming area of Sloans Lake is often highly utilized, it has been indicated that there is generally available space for additional swimmers. Therefore, any additional use generated by project-induced population would not normally impact the facilities. During Frontier Days, however, the facility is already fairly congested and additional use could aggravate crowded conditions.

The increased pressure for recreational participation at Lake Absaraka would be minimal since only 18 total activity days are forecast during peak year. At North Crow Reservoir the increase is also fairly low, although fishing and swimming each exhibit greater than 100 activity days of pressure during peak year. Although the percentage increase in both cases is relatively high (i.e., 3.3% and 11.2%, respectively), there is adequate capacity to accommodate these increases. Over the long term the increased pressure for these activities drops to below 50 activity days in both cases.

Since Sloans Lake is the only one of these three areas that maintains staff related to swimming, beach safety, and maintenance, it is the only area that potentially could require additional staff to maintain existing levels of service. However, when comparing the existing staff-to-visitation ratio, the additional pressure would not appear to warrant hiring any new staff, even during the short-term peak period. Figures showing ratios and projected full-time equivalent staff needs are shown below.

<u>Current Staff</u>	<u>Ratio</u>	<u>1987 Need</u>	<u>1992 Need</u>
4 Full-time	.1544	0.25	0.10
2 Part-time	.0772	0.12	0.05

#### 10.1.3.5.2 Nebraska Recreation Areas

Oliver Reservoir and the portion of the North Platte River between the Wyoming/Nebraska state line and the Bridgeport State Recreation Area in Morrill County would experience pressure for an additional 381 and 35 activity days, respectively, in the peak year if the project is implemented. In the settlement year, pressure would decline to an additional 125 days for Oliver Reservoir and 8 days for the North Platte River. The majority of additional pressure at Oliver Reservoir (229 out of 381 additional activity days) would occur in swimming, while the majority of additional pressure on the North Platte River would occur in boating.

In terms of percent increases in participation pressure, Oliver Reservoir would experience an increase of 1.5 percent while the North Platte River would experience an increase of 0.6 percent in the peak year; in the settlement year the percentage increases would be 0.5 and 0.1 percent, respectively. Such increases are insignificant overall, and the pressure for 229 additional activity days of swimming at Oliver Reservoir could create a very minor impact on recreational quality during peak periods. Pressure for additional boating activity days could also slightly exacerbate overcrowding during peak periods, since discussions with South Platte Natural Resource District personnel indicated that boating at the reservoir is already near or at capacity during peak periods. Increased recreational pressure would not justify an increase in staff (based on current levels and utilization).

#### 10.1.4 Mitigative Measures

The following mitigative measures are offered for consideration:

- o Implement an environmental awareness program to educate the project-related immigrants about problems associated with poaching, illegal fishing, vandalism, violations of park regulations, ORV abuse, etc. Details concerning such a program are included in Section 10.4. This mitigation measure would be effective in controlling the number of occurrences that could result in impacts to recreational and other environmental resources and, if selected, would be implemented by spring 1985. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure is the U.S. Air Force in association with state and federal recreational agencies.
- o Design an advertising and promotional campaign to promote public awareness of and interest in recreational areas that currently sustain lower user pressures than more popular areas. This type of campaign could include the use of printed materials, radio and television, and referrals by recreational agencies. This mitigation measure would aid in reducing the impact to the quality of the recreational experience and law enforcement problems at already heavily utilized areas and, if selected, would be implemented by

spring 1985. The implementing agencies for this mitigation measure are the Wyoming Recreation Commission, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the U.S. Forest Service.

- o Encourage the development of Upper North Crow Reservoir to attract usage from heavily utilized areas located nearby such as Curt Gowdy State Park and the Pole Mountain Unit of Medicine Bow National Forest. The provision of better access roads and signing would aid in this goal. This mitigation measure would aid in reducing the impact to quality of the recreational experience and law enforcement problems at already heavily utilized areas. If selected, it would be considered immediately and implemented at some time before peak year 1987. The responsible agency for implementing this mitigation measure is the Cheyenne Board of Public Utilities in conjunction with state and federal recreation agencies.
- o Develop management techniques to control the number of people entering already overcrowded facilities. Specifically, control access to facilities during peak periods through the use of automated gates with a car counter. Uncontrolled roads could be blocked during peak periods. A less expensive but less effective approach might be to post overcrowding notices on entrance roads with recommendations to go to alternative sites. This mitigation measure would aid in reducing the impact to quality of the recreational experience and law enforcement problems at already heavily utilized areas and, if selected, would be implemented at some time before peak year 1987. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure is variable depending on the jurisdiction of each area, but would most likely include the Wyoming Recreation Commission and the U.S. Forest Service.
- o Implement a monitoring program to continue throughout the project deployment period to assess changes in conditions and use patterns at major recreational areas within the region. This mitigation measure would aid in the identification of new or upgraded mitigation methods that may be required to prevent deterioration of critical parameters such as quality of the recreational experience and law enforcement problems. If selected it would be implemented immediately in order to establish a before-project scenario. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure is variable depending on the jurisdiction of each area but would most likely include the Wyoming Recreation Commission and the U.S. Forest Service.
- o Modify the existing state park regulations to protect against long-term camping at Curt Gowdy and other state parks. For instance, a requirement that seasonal camping permits may be used for 2 week periods at a time with at least 5 days between periods could be implemented. A color-coded, dated tagging system could be employed. The system would require a camper to pick up a tag before using a campground, display it while there, and turn it in at the end of his stay. This mitigation measure would effectively eliminate the potential for long-term camping at nearby state parks for all seasonal permit holders and, if selected, would be

implemented in spring 1985. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure is the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

- o Increase the number of law enforcement patrols through state parks by the appropriate sheriff's office, particularly with respect to Curt Gowdy State Park. Additional law enforcement personnel have been proposed for the Laramie County Sheriff's Department in the Public Services portion of this Jurisdictional EPTR and could be used to increase the patrols in the area of the park. This mitigation measure would aid in deterring criminal violations and other matters falling within the jurisdiction of the sheriff's office and, if selected, would be implemented by spring 1985. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure is the Wyoming Recreation Commission and the U.S. Forest Service in cooperation with the Laramie County Sheriff's Department.
- o Develop a temporary housing referral program for needy transients coming into the region during the project construction period. This program will identify local service agencies that are available to house such transients. A further referral program in the case of overburdened service organizations is being proposed in Section 3.1.6.6.6 of the FEIS and the Public Services and Facilities portion of this Jurisdictional EPTR. This mitigation measure would reduce the potential for transient immigrants to set up residence at nearby recreational areas by utilizing the Old Johnson Junior High School as a transient center and, if selected, would be implemented in early spring 1985. The implementing agencies for this mitigation measure are Laramie County School District No. 1, county agencies, and the City of Cheyenne.
- o Consider the development of the new section of land adjacent to Curt Gowdy State Park that was recently purchased by the state for park expansion. This mitigation measure would effectively reduce impacts on the quality of the recreational experience at the park due to increased visitation and, if selected, would be implemented by spring 1985. The implementing agency is the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

## **10.2      Arts and Cultural Organizations and Activities**

### **10.2.1    Baseline Description**

The arts and cultural activities in the region are supported by two state-level agencies: the Wyoming Council on the Arts and the Nebraska Arts Council. Local arts councils in the region include the Laramie County Arts Council, the Eastern Wyoming Fine Arts Council, Platte County Arts Council, and the West Nebraska Arts Center. These organizations (among others, both public and private, volunteer and paid) cooperate to provide cultural opportunities to Wyoming and Nebraska audiences, to assist local artists, to develop local public awareness of and interest in the arts, and to improve the quality of life in the area.

#### 10.2.1.1 Wyoming

##### 10.2.1.1.1 Wyoming Council on the Arts

The Wyoming Council on the Arts, headquartered in Cheyenne, was created by the Wyoming legislature in 1967 to stimulate arts and cultural activities, improve public interest in and awareness of the arts, and develop the cultural and economic strength of the state.

A variety of services are provided to Wyoming artists and local arts organizations. Promotion of Wyoming artists includes such projects as the Artist-in-Residence Program, the Folk Arts/Folk Artist-in-Residence Program, the Visiting Writers Project, the Wyoming Artists Slide Bank and Registry, the Art in Public Buildings Program, and sponsorship of special exhibits, workshops, and performances.

The Council also provides training, technical assistance, and grants to local, community, and statewide arts groups in support of arts programs and projects. The local arts councils in the Wyoming counties in the ASI - Laramie, Goshen, and Platte - as well as other local arts groups, receive funding support for a variety of programs. In 1983 the following organizations received Grants-in-Aid:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Activity Supported</u>
<u>Laramie County</u>	
Cheyenne Artists Guild	Artists workshop
Wyoming Music Teachers Association	Workshops
Cheyenne Civic Center	Various performances
Cheyenne Little Theater	Contracting professional director; conference attendance
Symphony and Chorale Society	Quality improvements, guest artist and conductor
Cheyenne Patrons of the Dance	Wyoming dancer/choreographer performance
Laramie County Community College	Renaissance group performance and workshop
Cheyenne Downtown Association	Local artists produced seasonal banners for display downtown
Church of Saints Constantine and Helen	Classes in traditional Greek dance
American Guild of Organists (S.E. Wyoming Chapter)	Organ concert series

Goshen County

Eastern Wyoming Fine Arts Council	Series of arts events in Torrington
Eastern Wyoming Community Service-Cultural Exposure Project	Series of arts events in smaller communities
Torrington Fiddler's Association	Promotion and judging of Goshen County Music Festival (2nd annual)

Platte County

Wheatland Art Guild	Visual artists workshops
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Statewide

University of Wyoming Cultural Outreach Program	Series of performances on tour in smaller rural communities
Wyoming Chatauqua Society	Startup of touring group
Wyoming Music Teachers Association	Piano teachers workshops
Wyoming Arts Alliance	Conference attendance, workshops, newsletter, aids to block booking of artists
Birleffi Productions	Matching National Endowment monies for documentary film on Wyoming
National Assembly of State Arts Agencies	Membership for Wyoming participation in Assembly
Wyoming Writers Association	Professional workshops at annual meeting
Wyoming Arts Foundation	Partial funds for data processing service and equipment for state-wide programs
Western States Arts Foundation	Wyoming membership in regional organization
Wyoming Music Teachers Association	Workshops for instructors

Source: State of Wyoming 1983 Annual Report of the Council on the Arts.

Numbers and value of grants received by counties in the ASI in 1983 were 15 to Laramie County totaling \$43,705; three to Goshen County for \$7,500; and one to Platte County for \$400. In fiscal year 1983, the Council granted a total of 64 direct grants for \$205,215 worth of support to development of the arts in the state.

The Artist-in-Residence Program places professional artists in schools. In 1983, the council supported one artist in Laramie County and two in Goshen County. The Visiting Writers Project sponsored six days of writing workshops in Platte County. The Council-funded Touring Project provided services and sponsored performances in all three ASI counties in 1983.

The Council on the Arts initiated and promotes the Wyoming Arts Alliance, a statewide consortium of community arts groups for cooperative booking of artists, performances, and events. The Alliance provides training and technical assistance to volunteer sponsor groups in small rural communities. The Rocky Mountain Arts Consortium and the Western States Arts Foundation are the regional networks with which the Wyoming Council cooperates to take advantage of a wider variety of arts opportunities.

In the past year, the Council lost the equivalent of one full-time staff member due to budget reductions and has since restructured some programs and services in an effort to provide them more efficiently and cost-effectively. The Council's staff consists of 5 1/2 full-time equivalent personnel. The proposed budget for the coming biennium (1984 to 1986) is approximately \$1,019,910. Of this estimated total, \$289,210 should come from the state general fund, \$719,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts, and \$10,900 from contributions from municipalities around the state, corporate donors, and others. The state appropriation to the Arts Council is relatively low compared to other states.

#### 10.2.1.1.2 Laramie County

The Laramie County Arts Council is a volunteer group primarily involved in business, management, and promotional aspects of local arts activities, including fundraising and training workshops. The Council was originally established with these objectives, rather than for sponsorship of performances, due to the existence of a number of other local groups directly involved in production of performances and events in Cheyenne and Laramie County.

The Cheyenne Civic Center, opened in 1981, has a capacity of 1,500. Information on the capacity and condition of the Center is provided in Appendix D. The Center is operated as a function of the City of Cheyenne. The Director and his staff are City employees. The Center has a total of 3 full-time, one three-quarter time, and 26 hourly staff. Events at the Center are numerous and varied. Sold-out houses are rare, but attendance is slowly growing as public awareness and community acceptance of the Center improve. Over 100 events have been scheduled at the Civic Center in each of its three years of operation. In 1983 to date, 12 performances have had attendance of over 1,000. The Center sponsors an annual series of events, as well as the Affiliate Artist Program. The latter, through corporate and individual sponsorships and partial City funding, brings an artist to Cheyenne each year for a series of performance/workshops around the community.

Other regular sponsors of performances at the Civic Center are the Symphony and Chorale Society of Cheyenne, the Cheyenne Community Concerts Association, the Cheyenne Little Theatre Players, Laramie County Community College, civic clubs, and the Frontier Days committee. These groups also give performances at other locations in the area, such as churches, schools, and the Community )

College. In addition, the Cheyenne Little Theatre maintains its own theatre with a capacity of 350. The Cheyenne Civic Orchestra also performs concerts at the Community College.

Season subscriptions to the Symphony and Chorale Society programs, Community Concerts, Community College, and Little Theatre performances are increasing each season. One of the best attended series is Community Concerts, which has approximately 1,400 season subscribers (or 2 percent of the county population). Community Concerts, Inc. is a private nationwide sponsor of touring performers. The company also maintains an association in Scottsbluff/Gering, where the same concert series are presented. Events and other cultural opportunities are promoted by the Civic Center, the Laramie County Arts Council, and the Chamber of Commerce, who produce and disseminate calendars of community events.

Visual arts exhibits are occasionally presented at the Civic Center. The Cheyenne Artists Guild, the oldest continuing arts organization in the community, provides classes, workshops, studio space, and gallery exhibit space to interested local artists. Membership is approximately 200.

#### 10.2.1.1.3 Goshen County

The Eastern Wyoming Fine Arts Council and Eastern Wyoming Cultural Exposure Project are based at Eastern Wyoming College in Torrington. The Arts Council was initiated by the college; it is supported by college funds, grants from the Wyoming Arts Council, season subscribers and other ticket sales, and local business and individual patrons and sponsors. The staff is made up of volunteers; the coordinators are paid from the college budget. The Arts Council's budget and local support are increasing. The Council sponsors six or seven performances each season at the college's one-year old Fine Arts Auditorium, which holds 750 people. Concerts were previously held in general purpose space at the college. The events season is from September to May; concerts are not held during the summer months due to the agricultural season. This year there are approximately 700 season ticket holders (5.8 percent of the county population); however, no programs have yet had a capacity audience. The highest attendance to date has been approximately 550.

The Arts Council selects programs from the offerings of the Wyoming Arts Alliance and the Western States Arts Foundation. They also coordinate programming with the West Nebraska Arts Center in Scottsbluff to benefit from block booking economies. The Eastern Wyoming College music and drama departments also present performances at the auditorium.

The Southeastern Wyoming Arts Council, comprised of members from Goshen and Platte counties, sponsors exhibits and workshops by area visual artists. In 1982 they received a grant from the state council to assist with a series of workshops in Torrington. Artists have also worked at the college through the state Artist-in-Residence Program.

The Eastern Wyoming College's Community Service Program sponsors the Cultural Exposure Program with state council assistance. The college has community service coordinators at public schools in 17 communities in the six-county service program region (Goshen, Platte, Niobrara, Crook, Western, and Converse). The Cultural Exposure Program presents a variety of touring



performers (dancers, musicians, drama performances) at elementary schools in 17 rural communities. In 1982-1983, the cultural/educational program served 3,700 students.

#### 10.2.1.1.4 Platte County

The Platte County Arts Council and the Wheatland Arts Guild are two volunteer arts organizations active in Platte County. Both are small and do not sponsor many activities. Since the completion of the Missouri Basin Power Plant project, the groups have lost support and membership, since many of the project-associated personnel were active volunteer participants in local arts and cultural activities.

The County Arts Council, the smaller of the two groups, sponsors a children's theatre with one or two performances per year, and the annual Oktoberfest. They also work with the school district and assist with art classes. Platte County is served by the Cultural Exposure Program of Eastern Wyoming College's Community Services.

The Wheatland Arts Guild has approximately 50 members. Each month the Guild sponsors an artist from the region to put on a demonstration before the community. They also organize exhibits featuring local artists at area banks and other businesses, and present an arts show at the annual county fair. The Guild has no office or gallery space of its own. In 1982 and 1983, the Wheatland Arts Guild received grant assistance from the Wyoming Council of the Arts for sponsorship of visual arts workshops in the community.

#### 10.2.1.2 Nebraska

##### 10.2.1.2.1 Nebraska Arts Council

The Nebraska Arts Council, with main offices in Omaha, was founded by the state legislature in 1965. The Council is supported by State appropriations and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Council in turn provides a variety of grants and service programs to help support arts events throughout Nebraska.

Categories of grants available to artists and cultural and art program sponsors are Art in Education, Artists-in-Schools/Communities, Learning through the Arts, Minigrants, Project Grants, Touring Grants, and the Year-Long Program.

Touring Grants are provided to local arts councils and organizations in the form of matching funds for performances and exhibits by artists available through the Nebraska Touring Program and the Mid-America Arts Alliance Touring Events. In 1983-1984, the Nebraska Touring Program will provide for 103 arts events in 53 communities in the state with a council appropriation of \$100,000 to be matched by community sponsors. The Mid-America Arts Alliance is a regional consortium of five state arts councils organized to provide three touring arts programs - the National Touring Program, the Regional Touring Program, and the Visual Arts Touring Program.

The Year-Long Program of the Council provides general operating monies to arts organizations in support of arts and cultural services. The Council recently

increased the maximum Year-Long Grant appropriation from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in recognition of increasing financial needs and difficulties encountered in meeting them through the federal endowment process.

The Council has established funding guidelines and priorities which reflect the long-range goal of providing quality arts and cultural opportunities to all Nebraskans. Priority funding is granted for events which increase the number and variety of arts programming in local communities, programs for which local funding and support are generated, projects which introduce new audiences to the arts, programs of high artistic and professional quality, and projects which involve cooperation among local arts and community organizations. Funds are provided only to non-profit, incorporated organizations or government subdivisions.

The Nebraska Arts Council also provides information, resources, and technical assistance to interested organizations or individuals. Services include technical and management assistance to non-profit community arts groups in all aspects of operation and production (including funding source information); the Arts Information Referral Service; Arts Awareness activities; publications; a lending library; films and videotapes; workshops and conferences; facility inventories; and a survey of foundations which fund arts projects.

Current full-time equivalent staff for the Arts Council is 11.5 persons. The total budget for the current fiscal year is \$491,857 from the Nebraska legislature and \$428,900 from the National Endowment for the Arts.

#### 10.2.1.2.2 West Nebraska Arts Center

The West Nebraska Arts Center, located in Scottsbluff, has been in existence since 1967. It is the second largest community arts council in Nebraska. The Center is partially funded by the Nebraska Arts Council, but is an independent entity with both a paid staff and volunteer members. The regional center is the major provider of arts and cultural opportunities in the Nebraska counties of the ASI.

The Center sponsors a series of visual arts exhibits in its own gallery facilities. The Center has no permanent collection; local and regional artists are presented in rotating shows. For the 1983-1984 season, 14 exhibits are scheduled. An average of 10,000 to 12,000 people visit the gallery each year.

The gallery, offices, and studio space owned by the Arts Center are located in a former Carnegie Library building. The Center also maintains a 90-seat theatre in the building. Arts education programs for children and adults are conducted in the studio. Workshops and classes in both visual and performing arts have been presented and are well attended.

Performing arts programs are selected from the offerings of the Nebraska Touring Program and the Mid-America Arts Alliance. The Center also coordinates booking of programs with the Eastern Wyoming Fine Arts Council in Torrington. Four to six major events are scheduled each season. Season subscribers number approximately 400 and are increasing each season. Average audience attendance for concerts and events has been around 300. Performances

are held in a variety of community facilities: Scottsbluff High School auditorium (1,000 seats), Scottsbluff Junior High (1,100 seats), Gering High School (740 seats), and Nebraska Western College Theatre (550 seats).

These events must be synchronized with scheduling of other activities at the schools. For smaller groups in a more intimate setting, local churches have been used.

The Arts Center has three full-time and one part-time paid staff members. Other work is provided by an active group of volunteers. The fiscal year 1983 budget for the Center is \$137,000. The budget is made up in part by two grants, a Nebraska Arts Center Year-Long Grant for general operations of \$16,275 and a National Endowment grant for \$14,710. Other funding support for the Center's activities is derived from gallery sales commissions, ticket sales, and other earned income; donations, membership dues, and corporate and individual sponsorships; and appropriations from Scotts Bluff County and the Cities of Scottsbluff and Gering.

The National Endowment sponsors the Center's Folk Arts Program. This program involves one full-time folk arts specialist, who conducts research on and documents local traditions and organizes educational/cultural activities. The Arts Center Folk Arts Program presents an annual Panhandle Festival, featuring traditional music and food of the region, at the Scotts Bluff County Fair.

#### 10.2.1.2.3 Platte Valley Musical Arts

Platte Valley Musical Arts is a local volunteer group of amateur musicians and singers. The group presents two to four concerts each year. This year two concerts are planned, one choral and one orchestra. These events are held at Scottsbluff High School or in local churches. The group is made up of about 100 members in the Scottsbluff/Gering area. Platte Valley Musical Arts has occasionally received grants and technical assistance from the Nebraska Arts Council.

#### 10.2.1.2.4 Community Concerts, Inc. of Scottsbluff/Gering

Community Concerts is a private nationwide enterprise presenting tours of professional artists in small communities for public service and for promotion of young performers. A series of four concerts is presented each season by concert series subscriptions only; tickets are not sold at the door for these events. Performances take place in the Scottsbluff High School auditorium. Average audience size is approximately 700 to 800; season subscribers number around 900.

#### 10.2.2 Projected Baseline

The population of the region is projected to increase gradually over the analysis period (1984 to 1992). State, regional and local arts organizations are actively engaged in audience development and promotion of arts and cultural activities. The success of their mission will be measured in terms of higher ticket sales and contributions to the arts, as well as by greater levels of participation in community arts events. As the region's population rises and more potential participants become interested in these activities, volunteerism can also be anticipated to increase.

The difficulties and high cost of providing services to small rural communities will continue, however, and costs are likely to increase. As demand for arts and cultural activities increases due to promotional efforts by arts organizations in the region, increased services and programs should be offered, for which additional funds and assistance will be required. It is assumed that these increased service and program costs will be offset by increased ticket sales, larger audiences for more events, contributions from participants and concerned corporate sponsors, and volunteer participation by interested consumers of the arts.

### 10.2.3 Project Impacts

Immigrant population projections for the region indicate increases of approximately 5 percent or more over the baseline population in any given year from 1984 to 1992 in Laramie, Platte, and Kimball counties. Goshen and Scotts Bluff counties are projected to receive some project-related population increase, but of a lesser magnitude. Banner County is not projected to receive any project immigrants.

By and large, an increase in population can be expected to have beneficial effects on regional arts and cultural activities since the potential audience and support base are expanded. Impacts of population influx into the region should nonetheless be examined and planned for on a program-by-program basis. For example, the Cheyenne Symphony and Community Concerts series are currently fully subscribed and may need to add additional performances and concerts to meet increased demand. Other programs in Cheyenne are not so well attended, however, and could readily accommodate new participants. Indications of current excess capacity at arts and cultural events in Goshen and Platte counties and in the Western Nebraska region imply that a short-term increase in population would not oversubscribe or otherwise adversely affect activities. In Platte County the recent reduction in population has resulted in shortfalls in attendance at and participation in cultural activities; the estimated project immigrant population would benefit the county. In general, larger potential audiences due to the immigrant population would have positive impacts on arts and cultural programming, since audience development and promotion are primary goals of all organizations involved in the arts.

The presence of arts and cultural opportunities in the region should help to alleviate problems of integration between the immigrants and the resident population. Volunteer activities will provide opportunities for interested newcomers to participate in community activities. Arts events also create outlets for constructive use of leisure time. Arts Council representatives predict that such opportunities will have beneficial, mitigative effects on potential social well-being problems in the immigrant and resident population groups.

Temporary increased demand for some currently well-attended cultural events in Laramie County may result in escalation of ticket prices, which may in turn reduce access to these opportunities by people on fixed incomes.

#### 10.2.4 Mitigation Measures

The following measures are proposed as possible means to mitigate impacts of increased demand for arts and cultural opportunities:

- o In order to specify and quantify potential impacts, research should be conducted on experiences of other impact communities in the region. Monitoring of participation in arts and cultural activities by the immigrant population should also be planned. This mitigation measure will be effective in providing arts organizations with information for planning purposes and for determining the degree of additional assistance required. To implement this measure properly, research should be initiated prior to the onset of project activities; monitoring and planning should commence with the first increase in population due to the project and continue through the construction phase. The responsible agencies for these measures would be the Wyoming Council on the Arts and the Nebraska Arts Council.
- o Provision of prioritized technical and financial assistance to local arts organizations should be considered in order to mitigate potential increased demands on these groups. Guidance should be provided to the local organizations on ways of obtaining additional grants from state and federal resources. Application of priority consideration to impacted communities should be agreed upon early in the project so that timely consideration can be given to grant proposals from these organizations. The responsible agencies for implementation of this measure would be the Wyoming Council on the Arts and the Nebraska Arts Council.
- o To alleviate the potential for reduced access to fully subscribed activities, additional programs should be added. The problem of ticket price escalation due to increased demand could be alleviated through initiation of a policy to grant subsidies to the elderly and others on fixed incomes. This would increase the availability of cultural opportunities to senior citizens and low-income persons, thereby fulfilling a general goal of arts organizations while helping to reduce the potential economic impact of the project on the arts. The responsible agencies for implementation of these suggested measures would be the Wyoming and Nebraska state councils and local arts sponsors, including the City of Cheyenne/Cheyenne Civic Center.
- o Information on arts and cultural opportunities should be made available to the immigrant population, including projects in which newcomers could participate as volunteers. A program to improve awareness of arts and cultural activities and organizations would be useful for both residents and immigrants; this program would be the mission of the state arts councils.

### 10.3 Fish and Game Law Enforcement

A variety of state and federal statutes, regulations, and laws have been established regarding management, protection, and harvesting of fish and game. Law enforcement provides a means to maintain and/or ensure an acceptable level of public compliance.

Available fish and game violations data were collected from law enforcement districts within Wyoming and Nebraska, as well as at a statewide level. Data were analyzed with the Statistical Analysis System computer program to determine if trends existed between violations, population increases or decreases, and large-scale development projects in remote areas.

#### 10.3.1 Baseline Description

Fish and game law enforcement responsibilities are divided among seven districts in Wyoming and six districts in Nebraska. State offices are located in Cheyenne and Lincoln, respectively. The proposed project occurs within Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) Enforcement District 5 and Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) Enforcement District 1. Current and historical game violation data were collected from these districts during a July 1983 field assessment. In addition, annual wildlife violations for Wyoming were collected for the 1950-1982 period and in Nebraska for the 1960-1982 period. Data were reviewed to determine if any correlations exist between violations and population, particularly as a result of the rapid energy development programs of the 1970s.

District information collected included category of violation, county, and year of occurrence. Residency status of the violator was generally not available, although some information regarding this was provided by the Illegal Residency Status Violation category. (Permits are issued on a resident or nonresident basis; resident permits are usually considerably less expensive.) Statewide data included only total number of violations.

Categories of violations evaluated generally follow the WGFD system of code violations; however, because of the small number of annual violations, approximately 14 WGFD categories were grouped in a miscellaneous hunting violations (MHV) category. The miscellaneous fishing violations (MFV) group is also a combination of several categories.

Only partial District records of game and fish violations were available for 1982 and 1983. Therefore, 1981 is the base year for District violations. During 1981, 614 violations were committed within District 5 (Table 10.3.1-1). Laramie County had the highest number of identifiable violations with 119 (Table 10.3.1-2). The 172 violations listed in the "other" category could not be identified by county of occurrence.

Fishing without a license was the most common violation in 1981. Data indicate violations in this category increased by approximately 32 percent in 1980. The limited data available for 1983 indicate fishing without a license may again be a leading violations category.

Excluding the miscellaneous hunting and fishing categories, the second highest number of violations occurred in the Illegal Residency Status category.

Table 10.3.1-1

GAME AND FISH LAW VIOLATIONS BY CATEGORY, DISTRICT 5,  
WYOMING

	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1983</u>
Hunt Big Game w/o License	20	31	25	21	23	26	19	N/A	2
Failure to Tag Big Game	35	38	47	51	43	35	58	2	5
Hunt or Fish in Wrong/Closed Area	27	27	37	13	43	34	32	1	2
Trespass to Hunt or Fish	19	25	29	17	20	21	35	N/A	3
Illegal Residency Status Hunting and Fishing	102	131	104	44	50	41	81	1	15
Fishing w/o License	68	135	99	103	110	92	123	3	23
Small Game Violations	23	24	27	14	4	18	10	2	1
Waterfowl Violations	4	7	7	9	10	15	8	N/A	N/A
Boating Violations	18	42	19	53	72	38	44	N/A	9
Miscellaneous Hunting Violations	62	86	80	75	132	135	118	7	19
Miscellaneous Fishing Violations	59	114	71	89	77	57	86	2	7
TOTAL:	437	660	545	489	584	502	614	18	86

Note: N/A - Data not available.

Source: Compiled from records of Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

Table 10.3.1-2

TOTAL GAME AND FISH LAW VIOLATIONS BY COUNTY  
WYOMING

	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Laramie	104	140	89	112	173	154	119	9
Albany	125	167	154	127	127	87	104	N/A
Carbon	113	246	253	189	173	121	112	9
Goshen	36	31	24	22	36	43	12	N/A
Platte	46	33	25	38	69	88	95	N/A
Natrona	13	43	0	1	2	1	0	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	8	172	N/A
TOTAL:	437	660	545	489	584	502	614	18

Note: N/A - Data not available.

Source: Compiled from records of Wyoming Game and Fish Department.



Violations increased 50 percent from 1980 to 1981 (Table 10.3.1-1). The third most numerous violation was failure to tag big game. In 1981, 58 violators were involved with tagging violations; this represents a 40 percent increase over the previous year.

The current and historical data in the tables can be interpreted in a variety of ways. However, the only apparent theme is that violation numbers fluctuate by categories, year, and county. It also appears that the majority of violations committed against wildlife involve licensing and tagging.

Discussions with enforcement specialists in Districts 5 and 3 indicated that:

- o Residents commit most of the hunting violations;
- o Nonresidents commit most of the fishing violations;
- o The majority of hunting violations occur during the hunting season;  
and
- o The majority of violations are committed by the 18-25 age group.

Enforcement specialists also expressed the opinion that poaching or taking game illegally is related to opportunity rather than economic necessity.

Although enforcement personnel infer that there is some correlation between project activity and increased violations, available county and district data does not show the relationship. A number of variables may influence the correlation. A partial list of variables includes:

- o Attitudes of the public toward wildlife laws;
- o Residency status;
- o Number of wardens in the district;
- o Warden aggressiveness;
- o Age of violators;
- o Length of residency;
- o Land ownership;
- o Season of year;
- o Cost of license;
- o Cost of fines/sentences;
- o Opportunistic hunting activities;
- o General location of wildlife resources;

- o Inclusion of non-fish and game specific violations in the violations records; and
- o Multiple violations by an individual in a single instance recorded as multiple violations.

Since a Wyoming Game and Fish Department planning report for 1981 indicated there might be a correlation between annual population changes in an area and the number of violations, a statewide analysis was undertaken. A regression model was used to evaluate total statewide violations and population changes on a yearly basis from 1950-1983. Analysis of the statewide data from 1950-1983 does indicate a correlation between population increases and wildlife violations (correlation coefficient = .9174). Thus, for this report, it was assumed that district violations would follow the statewide trend, although district data analyzed by county does not show the correlation within counties.

A variety of energy projects occurred in District 5 during the 1975-1982 period. In 1982 Carbon County had 16 projects operating with a work force of 2,704 (Department of Economic Planning and Development [DEPD], 1982). A total of 569 violations occurred in the District. Although the correlation between the number of violations and the work force is difficult to determine; by extrapolation, statewide data would indicate that a minimum of 35 violations might be attributed to this work force.

A peak work force of 4,308 associated with energy development occurred in Carbon County in 1980. Based on the statewide information, this work force may have committed a minimum of 55 wildlife violations within the state. Violations in the county were highest in 1976 and 1977 with 246 and 253, respectively. Total violations within District 5 were highest in 1976 and 1981 with 660 and 614 violations (Tables 10.3.1-1 and 10.3.1-2). The major violation committed during the 1975 through 1982 period related to illegal residency status.

A portion of the proposed project is within western Nebraska. Wildlife law enforcement responsibilities are managed by NGPC District 1. Game and fish violations committed in 1982 in that district totaled 424. Data indicate this is a 36.7 percent increase in crimes committed against wildlife from 1981 (Table 10.3.1-3). The major 1982 violations within District 1 included fishing without a license and boating violations. Ninety-four violations were committed in each category. Excluding the MHV and MFV categories, small game violations and hunting without a license were the second and third most numerous violations. The MHV and MFV categories are a combination of several categories similar to those described for Wyoming.

Violations by county indicate Scotts Bluff and Keith counties are where the most fish and game crimes were committed in 1982. The yearly totals by county vary from the totals by category, and the county totals in Nebraska because these included violations not directly related to wildlife (Table 10.3.1-4). Comparison of county violations seems to indicate a generally increasing trend in the total number of violations issued by conservation officers. However, violations committed against wildlife by category fluctuate from year to year. Regression analysis was conducted to evaluate changes in statewide

Table 10.3.1-3

YEARLY SUMMARY OF GAME AND FISH LAW VIOLATIONS BY CATEGORY,  
DISTRICT 1, NEBRASKA

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Hunting w/o License	5	11	9	11	16	17	16	12	43	20	20	27	16	12	11	36	45	75	51	24	35	47	37
Big Game Violations	4	4	2	14	4	5	16	10	12	11	11	3	1	3	31	44	39	22	29	32	-	40	28
Small Game Violations	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10	95	40	39
Migratory Bird Violations	11	17	2	1	33	4	29	26	4	13	2	-	8	6	25	22	27	23	24	8	-	17	36
Upland Game Violations	7	4	7	7	24	32	26	28	11	-	4	3	3	-	79	63	72	87	57	73	-	16	11
Fishing w/o License	73	34	60	51	31	52	51	28	14	54	84	126	142	82	66	85	131	103	70	77	83	75	94
Boating Violations	48	70	53	40	47	38	93	52	18	39	65	47	74	43	76	54	81	89	57	72	55	8	94
Miscellaneous Hunting Violations	48	40	51	89	57	53	93	52	76	102	130	146	131	153	2	13	3	1	44	74	-	10	50
Miscellaneous Fishing Violations	31	22	14	11	28	22	17	17	9	11	18	15	7	15	19	16	20	28	24	12	15	15	23
TOTAL:	227	202	198	224	244	223	341	225	187	250	334	367	382	314	309	333	418	428	356	382	263	268	424

Note: N/A - Data not available.

Source: Compiled from records of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

Table 10.3.1-4

**GAME AND FISH LAW VIOLATIONS BY COUNTY  
DISTRICT 1 NEBRASKA**

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982
Banner	N/A	5	1	7	9	3	8	3	9	4	N/A	1	1	6	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Box Butte	N/A	10	9	10	5	10	14	29	16	14	22	20	11	16	17	20	19	24	10	22	5	19	10
Cheyenne	N/A	3	5	10	10	2	2	11	9	14	9	12	13	8	12	6	2	7	10	10	8	4	8
Dawes	N/A	2	18	21	38	35	16	25	29	43	34	54	34	50	53	46	65	76	32	56	156	154	132
Deuel	N/A	2	2	0	6	4	1	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	1	2	9
Garden	N/A	15	11	12	14	17	18	22	25	17	28	19	20	34	16	12	21	20	22	9	15	12	12
Keith	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17	28	33	20	18	36	87	106	162	70	76	90	161	196	202	162	365	264	222
Kimball	N/A	14	20	30	31	22	18	10	11	12	8	15	10	11	17	11	5	6	2	1	5	5	11
Morrill	N/A	13	8	26	21	26	32	28	24	35	28	28	31	29	30	53	50	55	21	51	128	117	120
Perkins	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	4	19	26	21	12	15	6	6	9	8	8	4	8
Scotts Bluff	N/A	25	68	61	87	75	111	54	45	63	78	72	50	40	68	56	96	91	54	79	231	432	365
Sheridan	N/A	23	42	60	29	15	54	32	14	22	34	45	36	45	30	28	42	48	55	55	60	58	77
Sioux	N/A	-	4	90	4	4	10	6	2	7	9	8	11	15	19	12	12	10	11	12	26	52	112
TOTAL:		113	188	327	271	241	317	243	202	268	341	399	456	245	350	351	479	539	432	466	1003	1111	1067

Note: N/A - Data not available.

Source: Compiled from records of Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

population increases and violations from 1960-1982. Nebraska data indicate a correlation between increases in population and changes in violations (correlation coefficient = 0.8731).

#### 10.3.2 Projected Baseline

Regression analysis of Wyoming and Nebraska statewide population increases related to wildlife violations was used to forecast baseline violations. Since correlations were high, it was assumed that as population increases within the states of Wyoming and Nebraska, wildlife violations would also increase. It further appeared that fish and game law enforcement problems within WGFD District 5 and NGPC District 1 would continue as they have in the past, and continue to fluctuate by year, category, and district.

#### 10.3.3 Project Impacts

To predict wildlife violations associated with project immigrants, the "least squares" method was used to fit a line to show the trend in violations as population increases. The beta (slope) based on available data indicated that for every 1,000 immigrants, 12.7 violations could be expected in Wyoming and 15.8 in Nebraska.

During 1987 a peak immigration of 3,462 individuals is anticipated within the ASI. Predicted associated wildlife violations in Wyoming are estimated at 44 (Table 10.3.1-5), most of which will likely occur in District 5. (This assumption is based on the distances sportsmen will normally travel from their residences). Vilkites (1968) indicates that the actual violation rate may be nine times the number of observed violations and a USFWS (1983) report indicates a 2.33 percent arrest rate for wildlife violations. The USFWS report also describes several categories of violations that cause less obvious impacts than those discussed earlier. For example, violations such as failure to purchase a license or false oath (illegal resident license) decrease management funding. In addition, such activities as resident status background checks necessary for prosecution reduce field efforts and increase office time, thereby impeding enforcement personnel effectiveness. The project is not expected to create increased law enforcement problems in Nebraska based on predicted violations (Table 10.3.1-5).

At the statewide level, Wyoming law enforcement personnel averaged 53 violations per officer in 1982. Estimates for 1983 indicate the average number of violations per officer will increase to approximately 60. Based on the current average number of violations each law enforcement officer handles and the estimated increase in the number of violations which may occur during the peak immigration period (1986-1989), it appears that additional wildlife law enforcement may be necessary for Wyoming Game and Fish Department Enforcement District 5.

Table 10.3.1-5

## PREDICTED NUMBER OF INCREASED WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS

	<u>WYOMING</u>		<u>NEBRASKA</u>	
	<u>Total</u> <u>Inmigrants</u>	<u>Predicted</u> <u>Wildlife Violations</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>Inmigrants</u>	<u>Predicted</u> <u>Wildlife Violations</u>
1984	300	4	0	0
1985	2,024	26	0	0
1986	3,225	41	100	2
1987	3,462	44	100	2
1988	2,600	33	425	7
1989	2,325	30	550	9
1990	1,200	15	0	0
1991	925	12	0	0

Note: These predictions are based on regression estimates of statewide data.

Although statewide violations may be expected to occur as population increases, total impacts related to the project immigrant population can be expected to be less than those that occurred in counties and fish and game enforcement districts which were affected by the much larger-scale energy developments mentioned earlier.

#### 10.3.4 Mitigative Measures

The following mitigation measures are offered for consideration:

- o Addition of one law enforcement officer during peak project population years (1986-1989) to help alleviate the potential increase in law enforcement workload due to project immigrants. The implementing agency for this mitigation would be the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.
- o Implementation of the proposed environmental awareness program which could help reduce the number of existing and future fish and game violations in the project area. The implementing agency for this mitigation measure would be the Air Force.

#### 10.4 Environmental Awareness

Environmental awareness is defined as an understanding of the physical environment and man's relationship to it. Such an understanding usually results in attitudes and behavior which reduce to a minimum the impacts of human activities on the physical environment.

##### 10.4.1 Need for a Program

Concern has been expressed on the part of local officials responsible for maintenance of the environment that project development may result in negative impacts due to population increases. Lack of environmental awareness is thought to increase certain activities such as illegal hunting and fishing,

harassment of wildlife and domestic livestock, and disturbance and degradation of wildlife habitat and agricultural lands.

Without a program to address the source of these impacts, it could be predicted that such activities will continue and perhaps increase.

#### 10.4.2 Proposed Program Methodology

In order to develop a proposed environmental awareness program, the following steps were taken:

- 1) Review a representative sample of environmental awareness programs developed and implemented for projects of a similar nature;
- 2) Evaluate the components of these programs and their effectiveness, if possible; and
- 3) Develop an outline of suggested elements for an environmental awareness program for both the construction and operational phases of the proposed project.

#### 10.4.3 Background

##### 10.4.3.1 Program Effectiveness

Controlled studies of educational programs show that such programs are effective in increasing environmental awareness (Jernigan and Wiersch 1978; Perdue and Warder 1981; Horsley 1977). The resultant attitude changes in studied subjects were also shown to increase environmentally responsible behavior (Horsley 1977). Course content may influence the outcome of such programs, but Hendee (1972) cautioned that the effectiveness of program content has not been rigorously evaluated and that probably the most effective programs were those limited to transmitting information. The overall effectiveness of transmission of information in increasing awareness has been documented by Young (1980), Cohen (1973), Kinsey et al. (1982), and Hendee. Both Hendee and Stapp (1979) emphasized the importance of developing clear objectives before initiating environmental awareness programs. Stapp further stressed that identifying goals and targeting audiences were critical to developing effective programs.

##### 10.4.3.2 Program Elements

Several authors have evaluated specific program elements which were determined to be successful in increasing environmental awareness. Jernigan and Wiersch found that outdoor awareness labs, field research activities, and classroom lessons with lectures, film strips, written materials, games, and lab activities, were all successful techniques. Perdue and Warder utilized a wilderness experience which included exposure to the environment, development of skills and activities, and development of attitudes of responsibility and appreciation toward the environment. Horsley used discussion groups, various kinds of behavioral reinforcement, and provided a teacher as a behavior model. Handouts and informational material were distributed and discussed. The importance of behavioral change was emphasized, and the instructor visited the group later to reinforce behavior.

The studies summarized above were designed primarily for secondary school and college students. Their program elements were best suited for a student environment. However, the evaluation of effectiveness of the elements of these environmental awareness studies does provide useful information for development of a program for the proposed project.

#### 10.4.4 Existing Programs

##### 10.4.4.1 Description of Existing Programs

A number of programs that have been developed for various large-scale projects in relatively remote or undeveloped areas have also been examined. In cases where these programs were instituted and evaluated, a qualitative evaluation has been made. Summary descriptions of the programs follow.

##### Mobil Oil Company Caballo Rojo Coal Mine, Gillette, Wyoming.

The Caballo Rojo Coal Mine program, which has not yet been instituted, emphasizes wildlife issues, and company personnel will be assisted in its application by Wyoming Department of Game and Fish personnel. The principal program topics will include:

- o An overview of the Wyoming Industrial Siting Act and its permit requirements;
- o The Federal Endangered Species Act and a discussion of those species found locally that have a potential to be affected by development;
- o Local wildlife statutes, hunting laws, and hunting license requirements;
- o Discussions of specific groups of wildlife such as birds of prey, protected birds, predatory animals, and protected animals;
- o Restrictions on use of spotlights and other type of equipment for hunting;
- o Off-road vehicle usage; and
- o Trespassing laws.

In Caballo Rojo's program, all the topics are discussed relative to impacts associated with mine development. Also, topics are chosen to reflect issues of concern in the region and on the project site.

##### North Antelope Coal Company, Gillette, Wyoming.

North Antelope's program for its proposed coal mine has not been implemented due to project slowdown. When instituted, however, the program will consist of an initial presentation during employee orientation and training. The major emphasis will center on knowledge of permits and permit stipulations. Topics to be covered include:



- o Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality permits;
- o U.S. Forest Service permits and permit stipulations;
- o Wyoming Industrial Siting Administration permit requirements;
- o Game and fish laws; and
- o Threatened and endangered species issues (e.g., the harassment of eagles).

North Antelope perceives a strong need for more intensive training for supervisory personnel. They will be required to read applicable laws, permits, and appropriate chapters of agency regulatory manuals. Supervisors will be required to sign a document stating that they have read and are familiar with the permit stipulations. The North Antelope environmental awareness program emphasis and concern is based primarily on company policy, rather than on permit or agency requirements. Refresher courses will be provided periodically as part of training for promotion programs.

A manual of information is also currently being developed. North Antelope restricts firearms and will dismiss workers if they are caught illegally taking game.

#### Overthrust Industrial Association, Rawlins, Wyoming.

An environmental awareness program is in the development stages for the Overthrust Belt region of western Wyoming, northeastern Utah, and eastern Idaho. A university will prepare the actual program, (inventory work, audiovisual materials, and written materials), which will be presented to employees, schools, and local governments. Exact timing and presentation of the program has not yet been determined. The major points to be covered in the program are:

- o Acquaint the users with the physical characteristics of the environment;
- o Identify recreational opportunities in the area;
- o Identify public agencies (such as fish and game departments) and explain their regulations;
- o Explain the various rules and regulations governing recreational activities;
- o Discuss private landholders' concerns;
- o Discuss other activities which result in negative impacts to natural resources such as littering or driving vehicles off designated roads; and
- o Discuss the tenets of responsible behavior in engaging in outdoor recreation activities and the consequences of negative behavior.

Rio Blanco Shale Company, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Because of the delay in shale oil resource development, Rio Blanco's environmental awareness program has not yet been implemented. Program elements have been outlined, however. The program will be presented during initial training and orientation. The program consists of a packet of information which includes:

- o Maps;
- o Resource/recreation office locations such as the National Park Service or the Bureau of Land Management;
- o Wildlife regulations;
- o Description of regional camping and fishing opportunities;
- o Hunting areas and hunter safety;
- o Off-road vehicle use areas; and
- o Snowmobile safety.

A 15-minute movie on environmental beauty and fragility will also be shown.

There will be follow-up programs during the workers' weekly safety meetings. These are anticipated to be monthly 15-minute presentations. At these follow-up sessions, the original packet of material will again be mentioned and seasonal environmental and safety issues discussed.

Firearms and hunting are prohibited onsite and workers are dismissed if caught illegally taking game.

The overall goals of Rio Blanco's program are to inform workers about diverse recreation opportunities in the region and to mitigate possible impacts from increased numbers of workers. Mitigation of overall physical environment (i.e., wildlife and habitat) impacts is also important. The awareness program will be presented within the context of worker safety. Since this is of great importance to employers, this will help to ensure employer cooperation with the awareness program.

Alyeska Pipeline Services Company, Anchorage, Alaska.

Alyeska's environmental awareness program may have been the first of its kind instituted to educate workers on a development project. Trans-Alaska pipeline construction began shortly after the passage of NEPA, and environmental concerns regarding pipeline construction were extensive.

Alyeska's program consisted of a 1-hour slide and script presentation to all employees. Attendance was required of employees as they arrived at remote pipeline construction locations. An attendance log was kept. Employees, particularly supervisors, commonly saw the presentation more than once.

Points made during the presentation were reiterated in the employee manual. The program was given by Alyeska staff members: the vice president of operations, the manager of the environmental protection department, the fisheries and wildlife administrator, and the chief legal counsel. Issues covered were:

- o The physical environment;
- o Fish and game;
- o Environmental regulations and laws;
- o Reporting of oil spills;
- o Driving vehicles outside of designated areas;
- o Feeding bears;
- o Revegetation and rehabilitation programs;
- o Fire-fighting procedures and reporting;
- o Personal care and safety in extreme cold; and
- o Herbicide and pesticide handling.

Firearms, hunting, fishing, and alcohol were restricted. Employees were dismissed for violation of any of these rules. Alyeska perceived the need for a program from the beginning of pipeline construction since many pipeline workers came from radically different physical environments. Alyeska believes the program was 75 to 80 percent effective in achieving its objectives. Regulatory authorities in Alaska found Alyeska's program so effective that they shelved plans for their own awareness program.

SOHIO Alaska Petroleum Company, Anchorage, Alaska.

The environmental awareness program implemented by SOHIO in Alaska consisted of an initial presentation, including a videotape, during employee orientation and training sessions. The employee handbook contained a section on environmental issues; safety within the Alaska environment was emphasized.

Two separate programs have been developed: one for supervisors and professional personnel, and another for field workers and construction personnel below the the supervisory level. The expanded program for supervisors and professionals explains the regulatory background and rationale for the environmental rules. Other workers receive a more simplified explanation, emphasizing rules, regulations, and safety. All employees are made aware of wildlife regulations, but this is not a program emphasis. All SOHIO facilities are closed to hunting and trapping for both transient and resident workers. This is primarily for worker safety and equipment protection. The program has been judged effective by SOHIO and has been in use for several years.

#### 10.4.4.2 Summary of Effective Components of Existing Programs

The following discussion details those components of each program that its sponsors found most effective. It is followed by a summary of effective components that led to a determination of the basic elements of an environmental awareness program.

##### 10.4.4.2.1 Sponsor-Determined Evaluations

#### Mobil Oil Company Caballo Rojo Coal Mine, Gillette, Wyoming.

The elements outlined in Caballo Rojo's program are all considered effective by program developers. Those most effective or essential are:

- o Discussion of local wildlife statutes, hunting laws, and hunting license requirements;
- o Discussion of restricted hunting practices such as spotlighting;
- o Discussion of off-road vehicle usage; and
- o Discussion of trespassing laws.

Mobil worked closely with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in developing their program and based the anticipation of the effectiveness of various program elements on the experience and recommendations of the Department.

#### Overthrust Industrial Association, Rawlins, Wyoming.

Those elements that the association considers most effective include:

- o Identification of recreational opportunities in the area;
- o Explanation of the various rules and regulations governing recreational activities; and
- o Discussions of private landowner concerns.

Although the program has not yet been administered, these are projected to be most effective because they address areas of concern of residents in the area, i.e., dispersal of recreation use in the area and avoidance of overuse of popular areas; observation of various state and federal regulations involving recreational uses; and acquainting new residents with landowner concerns and rights.

#### Rio Blanco Shale Company, Grand Junction, Colorado.

In its originator's estimation, the most effective element of the company's program is its form of presentation, that is, the program is initially introduced in some detail and periodic follow-up sessions are held which reinforce initial information. Two other elements considered effective are:

- o Sanctions against prohibited behavior, such as the dismissal of employees who bring firearms or hunt on site;

- o Encouraging safe and socially approved recreational opportunities, such as hunting, fishing, and camping, by providing information on outdoor recreation activities.

The Rio Blanco Shale Company program was developed in cooperation with various Colorado state agencies, particularly the Colorado Division of Wildlife; these agencies, working with Rio Blanco, judged these elements to be the most effective.

Alyeska Pipeline Services Company, Anchorage, Alaska.

The elements of the Alyeska program which were found to be most effective were:

- o More intensive training of supervisory personnel;
- o Reporting of oil spills;
- o Prohibitions against feeding bears;
- o Firefighting procedures and reporting;
- o Sanctions against firearms, hunting, fishing, alcohol, and other prohibited behavior.

Alyeska judged the program effective because, once initiated, most environmental problems, such as fires and oil spills, were alleviated, especially when coupled with sanctions.

SOHIO Alaska Petroleum Company, Anchorage, Alaska.

The program elements which SOHIO found to be effective include:

- o More intensive training for supervisory personnel; and
- o Prohibition of hunting and fishing on all facilities sites.

More intensive training for supervisory personnel was considered effective because they could then transmit information to their employees on a casual basis and understand and encourage compliance with various environmental regulations. Prohibitions on hunting and fishing were effective in eliminating many problems surrounding the illegal taking of game, as well as protecting workers and equipment from damage.

10.4.4.2.2 Basic Program Elements

It is difficult to evaluate the overall effectiveness of environmental awareness programs in positively influencing participants' behavior. Few programs have actually been instituted, and fewer have been rigorously evaluated. In spite of these limitations, these elements have been judged effective in environmental programs:

- o Programs should emphasize the transmittal of information;
- o Programs should have clear objectives and correctly target their audiences;
- o Supervisory personnel should receive broader, more intensive training which emphasizes the conceptual and regulatory framework of environmentally acceptable behavior;
- o Brief, occasional refresher courses should be provided;
- o Programs should be regional in nature and focus on site-specific concerns;
- o Courses which emphasize environmental safety issues and regulatory concerns tend to receive the most cooperation in implementation from employers; and
- o Environmentally irresponsible behavior should be discouraged through a system of sanctions.

#### 10.4.5 Mitigative Measures

The following environmental awareness program is offered for consideration as a possible mitigative measure. The approach and various elements recommended were selected based on three overall criteria:

- 1) Elements or approaches found effective under rigorous, research-oriented settings;
- 2) Elements found effective in mitigating environmental effects experienced on other large-scale development projects; and
- 3) Elements appropriate to the region and responsive to regional concerns.

The basic elements comprise:

- o An initial program presented during worker training and orientation;
- o Brief follow-up sessions presented periodically during workers' weekly safety meetings;
- o More intensive training of supervisory personnel so that environmental awareness information can be communicated to workers on a casual basis;
- o An overview of the regional physical environment;
- o Major fish and game regulations;
- o Major resource management agencies;

- o Regional recreation opportunities, agencies, user fees, and regulations;
- o Safe and environmentally responsible behavior in the out-of-doors;
- o Landowner (farmers and ranchers) and community concerns; and
- o A formal system of employer sanctions on undesirable behavior to reinforce various elements of the program.

Follow-up sessions should be held periodically, perhaps at critical times such as prior to hunting season, to discuss issues such as hunting regulations and hunter safety. Issues presented during the initial phase could be reiterated and potential problems discussed.

A more comprehensive program for supervisory personnel should be provided. The program would explain the importance of compliance with environmental regulations, maintaining a positive community image regarding environmentally responsible behavior, and the consequences of a negative community perception of workers' outdoor behavior. The program could also emphasize the safety advantages of environmentally responsible behavior and possible productivity problems that could result if workers injured themselves in pursuit of outdoor recreation activities.

The expanded program for supervisory personnel would be provided during orientation and follow-up sessions, providing them with more detailed information than the basic program and acquainting them with the environmental regulations governing the project. By keying environmentally responsible behavior to such issues as regulatory compliance, worker safety, and worker productivity, the integration of environmental awareness into ongoing operations can be assured.

Most of the environmental awareness programs reviewed had internal policies to reinforce environmentally responsible behavior, usually in the form of negative sanctions. The proposed project could institute such policies which might include sanctions against hunting onsite, illegal taking of game, harassing wildlife or domestic animals, littering, driving vehicles off designated roadways, leaving fence gates open, or any other local issues of concern.

## **10.5 Regional Transportation**

### **10.5.1 Roadways**

The Area of Site Influence is served by a network of national, state, and local roads as shown in Figure 10.5.1-1. The region is traversed by two routes of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways. Interstate 25 serves north-south traffic movement, while Interstate 80 serves east-west movement within and through the region. These traffic arteries are augmented east-west by U.S. Routes 26 and 30 and north-south by U.S. 85, as well as by several state highways and county roads to serve population centers and rural areas.

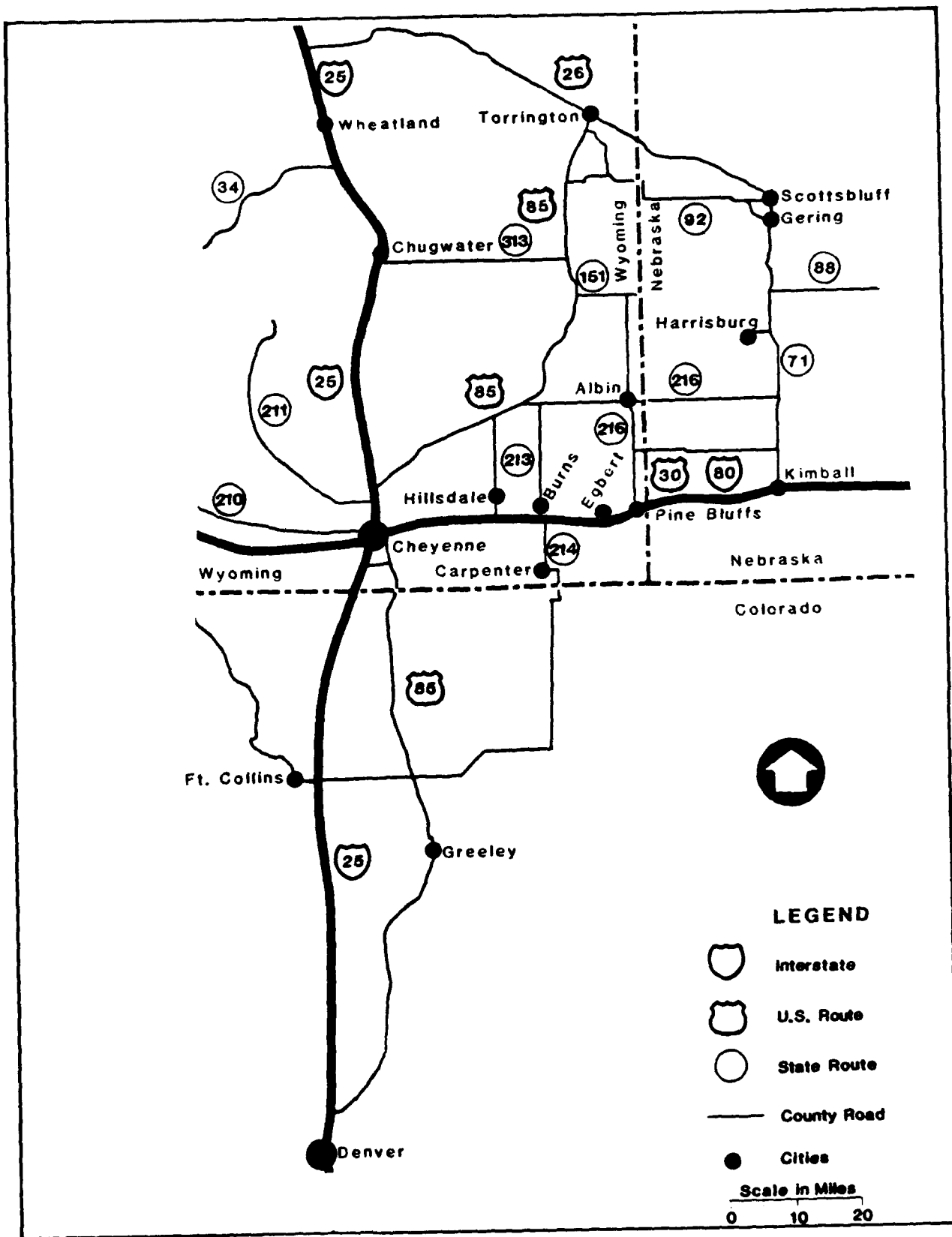


FIGURE 10.5.1-1 REGIONAL HIGHWAYS



The roads in this network have been functionally classified according to the character of service they provide. This functional classification is determined by the level and nature of travel service provided by a given road and its role in providing access to adjacent areas. All roads are classified according to three basic functional classifications: arterial, collector, and local. These classifications are defined in Table 10.5.1-1.

Table 10.5.1-1

# FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION

<u>Functional System</u>	<u>Character of Service</u>
Arterial	- Highest level of service at the greatest speed for the largest uninterrupted distance.
Collector	- Connectors which provide less highly developed service at lesser speeds for shorter distances by collecting or distributing traffic between local roads and arterials.
Local	- Other roads providing access to abutting areas with little through traffic.

The roadway network of the region has been classified according to the National Highway Functional Classification criteria, as shown in Figure 10.5.1-2. The State of Nebraska is one of several states which also classify their roads according to a different set of classifications and criteria for purposes unique to a given state.

Another important aspect of the road system is identification of its various segments according to sources and types of funding and jurisdictional responsibilities for construction and maintenance. The Federal Aid System, the largest classification of roadway networks, is described in Table 10.5.1-2.

Table 10.5.1-2

# FEDERAL AID SYSTEM

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Description</u>
Interstate System	- National System of Interstate and Defense Highways, the routes of highest importance.
Federal Aid Primary System	- Main arterial roads important to interstate, statewide, and regional travel.
Federal Aid Secondary System	- Rural major collector routes.
Federal Aid Urban System	- Selected arterials and collectors in urban areas.

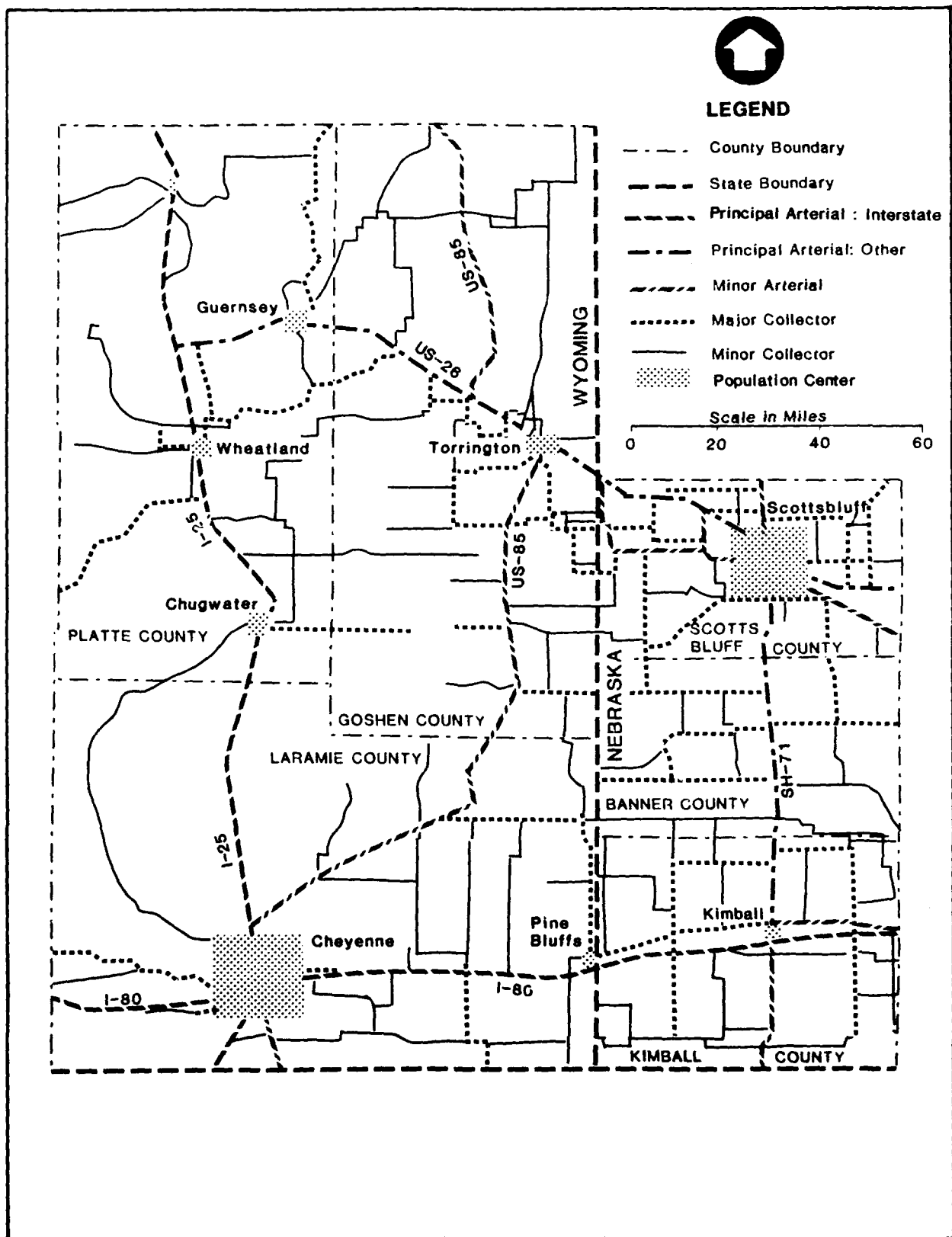


FIGURE 10.5.1-2 NATIONAL HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION

Platte River west into Wyoming. This line carries over 50 million gross tons annually.

Coal dominates commodities transported through the area, predominantly in a west to east direction. Other major rail-transported commodities are farm and food products.

Much of the coal rail traffic originates in Wyoming. Nebraska is considered a "bridge" state, meaning that most rail operations are through traffic with only a small percentage of the operations originating or terminating in the state. After large increases in shipments between 1978 and 1980 due to coal production BN tonnages shipped have been increasing slightly over the last 3 years and UP shipments have been decreasing slightly.

Rail lines in the area are shown in Figure 10.5.2-1 and traffic data is summarized in Table 10.5.2-1.

Table 10.5.2-1

STATE RAILROAD TRAFFIC DATA

	<u>Wyoming</u>	<u>Nebraska</u>
	1981	1982
	<u>(Million Tons)</u>	<u>(Million Tons)</u>
<u>Union Pacific</u>		
Originating	26.0	5.2
Through	28.2	41.0
Total	54.2	46.2
Terminating	1.9	2.5
<u>Burlington Northern</u>		
Originating	75.0	5.8
Through	13.0	18.2
Total	88.1	24.0
Terminating	3.8	7.5

Source: Wyoming Public Utility Service, 1983  
Nebraska Public Services Commissions, 1983

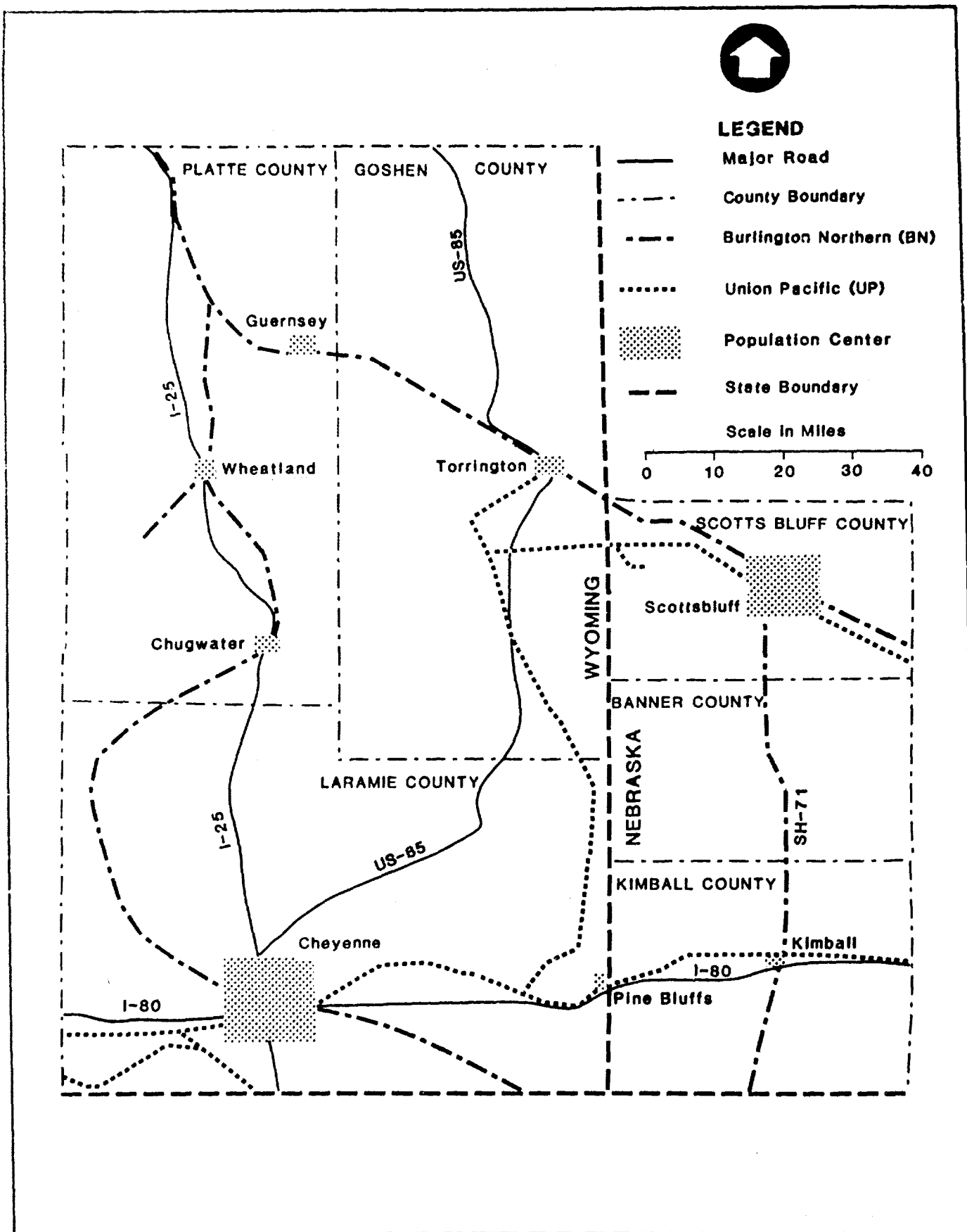


FIGURE 10.5.2-1 REGIONAL RAIL LINES

#### 10.5.2.2 Projected Baseline

Future trends in mainline shipments through the study area will depend on the general economic conditions and competition among the other transcontinental rail lines and between modes, two factors which require considerations beyond the scope of this study.

However, based on recent trends and discussions with rail officials, it can be assumed that rail activity on the system as it presently exists would remain reasonably stable.

One project that will affect the existing system is a coal rail line in eastern Wyoming, extending into Nebraska. Chicago and North Western Transportation Company (C&NW) and Burlington Northern are planning a new rail line to serve an area of coal production in Campbell and Converse counties, Wyoming. This project consists of construction of a 106-mile rail line from the area of coal production to C&NW's existing line at Shawnee, Wyoming to Burlington Northern's existing line at Orin, Wyoming; rehabilitation of 45 miles of the existing C&NW branch line east of Shawnee; construction of a 56-mile long connection to the Union Pacific's existing North Platte Branch; and construction of various maintenance and operating facilities including over one million sq ft of repair and storage facilities in Morrill, Nebraska. C&NW projects that the line will reach an operational plateau in 1991 of approximately 40.3 million tons per year of coal with an average of 12 trains per day in each direction.

A full evaluation for the growth in rail traffic would have to include an analysis of intermodal competition which is beyond the scope of this study.

#### 10.5.2.3 Project Impacts

Project-related impacts are difficult to predict, as the actual distribution of materials to be delivered by rail or truck cannot be determined.

The existing rail system is well under capacity and could handle any added shipments related to the project. Any increases would probably be handled with additional rail cars added to the present number of trains.

With numerous sidings throughout the area, it is possible that some of the sidings could be used as rail delivery points for construction materials that could then be distributed to trucks for the various silo sites and roadway construction segments. These sidings again, are underused and should be capable of handling these possible transfers using temporary equipment or facilities.

#### 10.5.2.4 Mitigative Measures

With the project spread over a large area and the large capacity of the rail system, any added demand will be well within the capacity of the system, and no mitigative measures are proposed.

### 10.5.3 Regional Public Transit

#### 10.5.3.1 Baseline Description

Intercity bus service to the project area is provided by Greyhound and Trailways.

Trailways has two routes, both operating on a north-south axis. Route 8505 runs two round trips daily from Billings, Montana to Denver, Colorado and services the communities of Wheatland, Chugwater, and Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Fort Collins, and Denver, Colorado. Trailways Route 8506 runs three round trips daily from Rapid City, South Dakota, to Denver, Colorado. Service on this route is provided to Torrington, and Cheyenne, Wyoming; and Fort Collins, and Denver, Colorado. An additional two round trips daily are provided between Cheyenne, Fort Collins, and Denver.

Trailways operates 46 passenger buses and reports an average 45 percent load factor on its routes in the area.

Greyhound has two routes serving the study area. Route 558 operates four round trips daily from Chicago, Illinois, to Salt Lake City, Utah, and services the communities of Laramie, Cheyenne, and Pine Bluffs, Wyoming; and Kimball, Nebraska. Route 571 operates three round trips daily between Cheyenne, Wyoming, to St. Louis, Missouri, and provides service to Greeley, and Denver, Colorado.

Greyhound reports approximately 19,000 passengers boarding in Cheyenne in 1982 with an approximate equal number debarking. Approximately 200,000 passengers traveled through Cheyenne on through lines.

#### 10.5.3.2 Projected Baseline

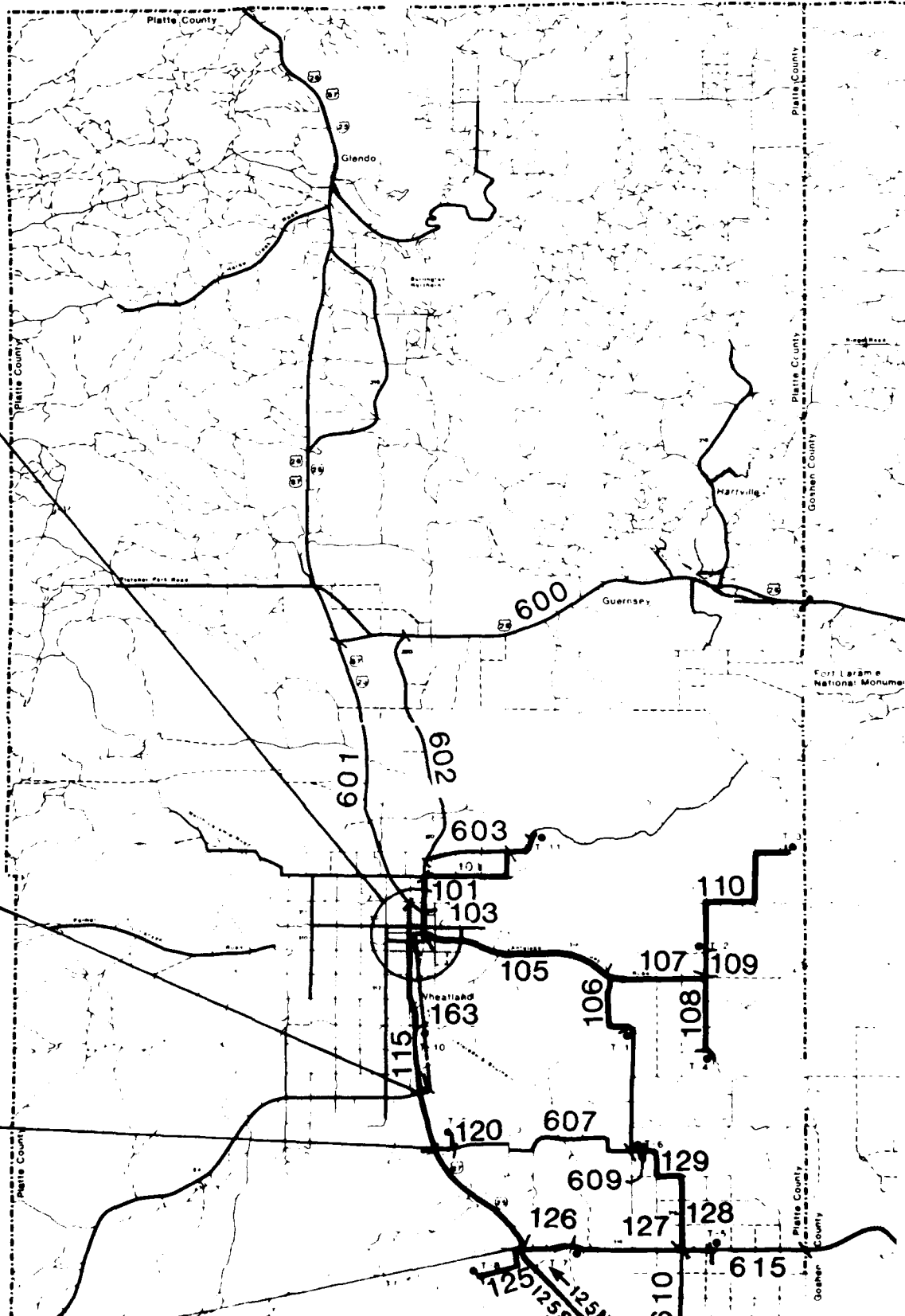
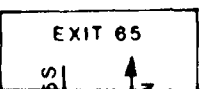
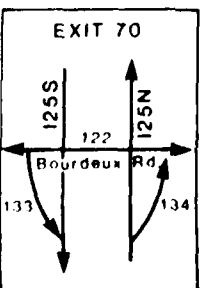
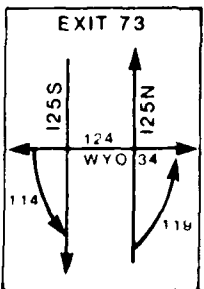
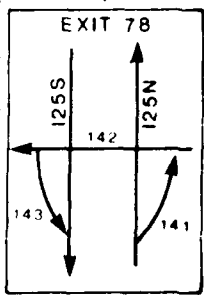
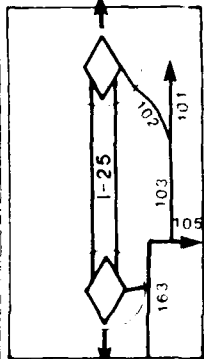
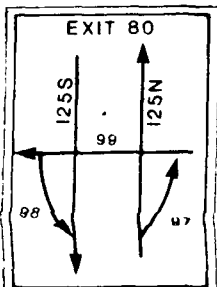
Both Greyhound and Trailways project approximately 5 to 10 percent growth across their systems. No changes to the present area service are foreseen.

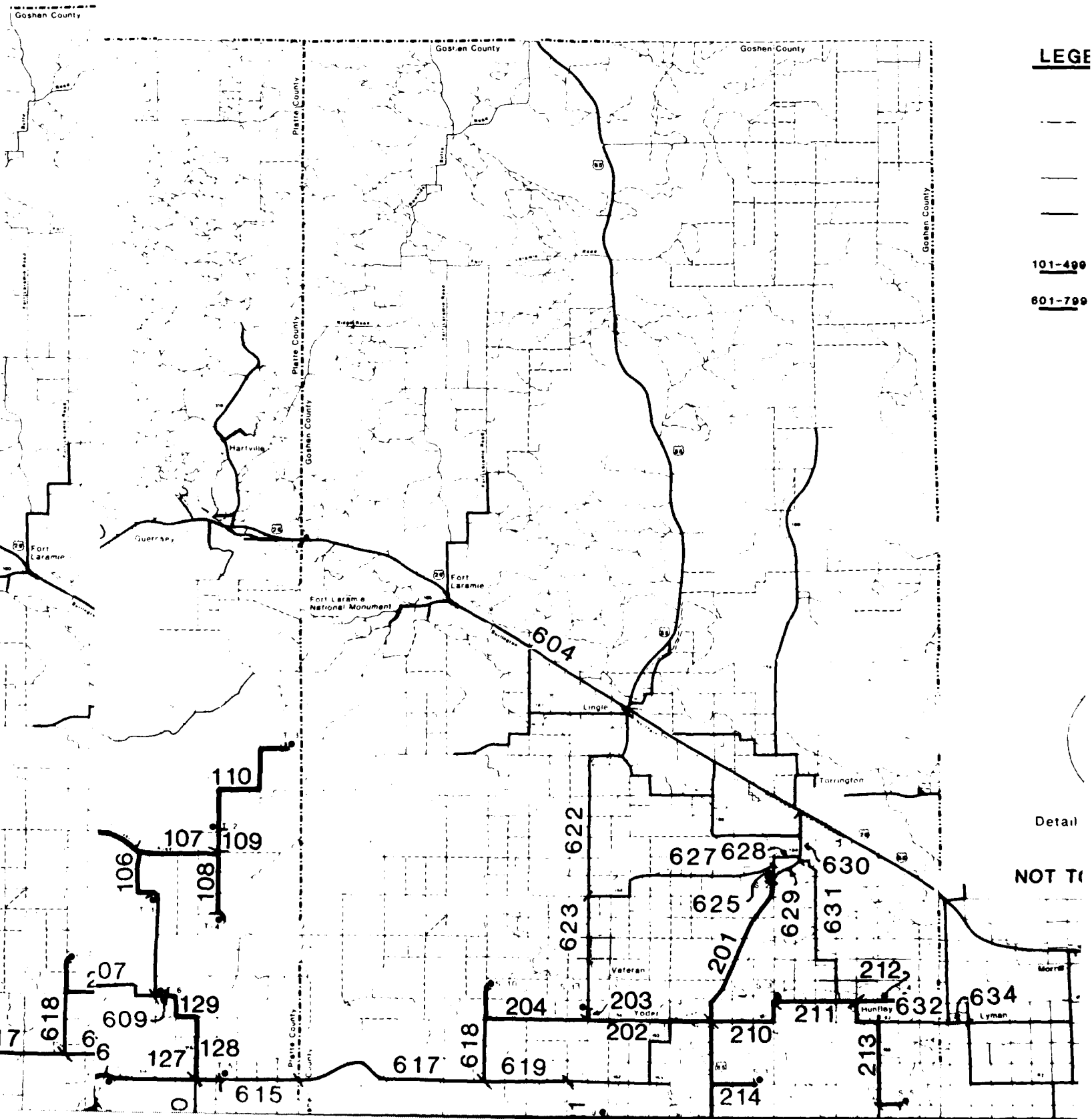
#### 10.5.3.3 Project Impacts

Demand for intercity bus service is difficult to anticipate. High income levels of project-related employees would indicate a low demand. The increased level of economic activity would probably result in limited demand increases.

#### 10.5.3.4 Mitigative Measures

No mitigative measures are required because the impacts are expected to be minimal.







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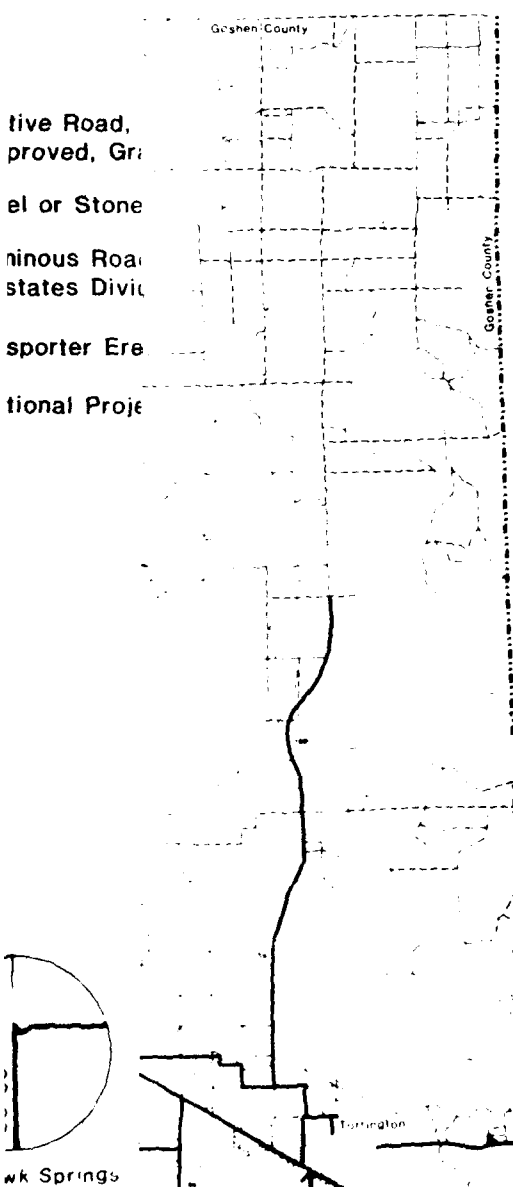
### LEGEND

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- Gravel or Stone Roads
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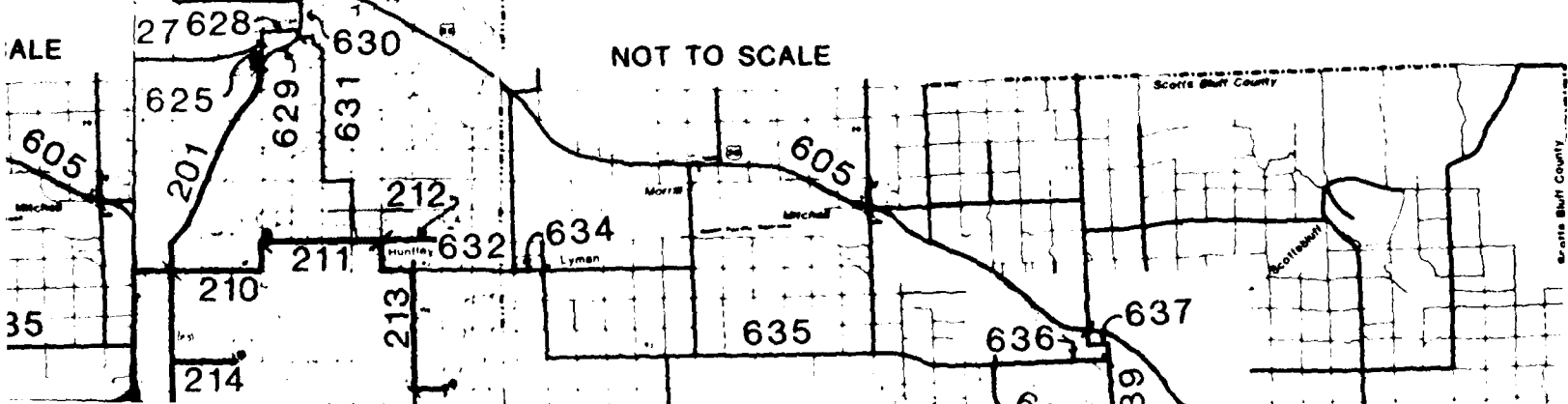
101-499 Transporter Erector Links

601-799 Additional Project-Related Links

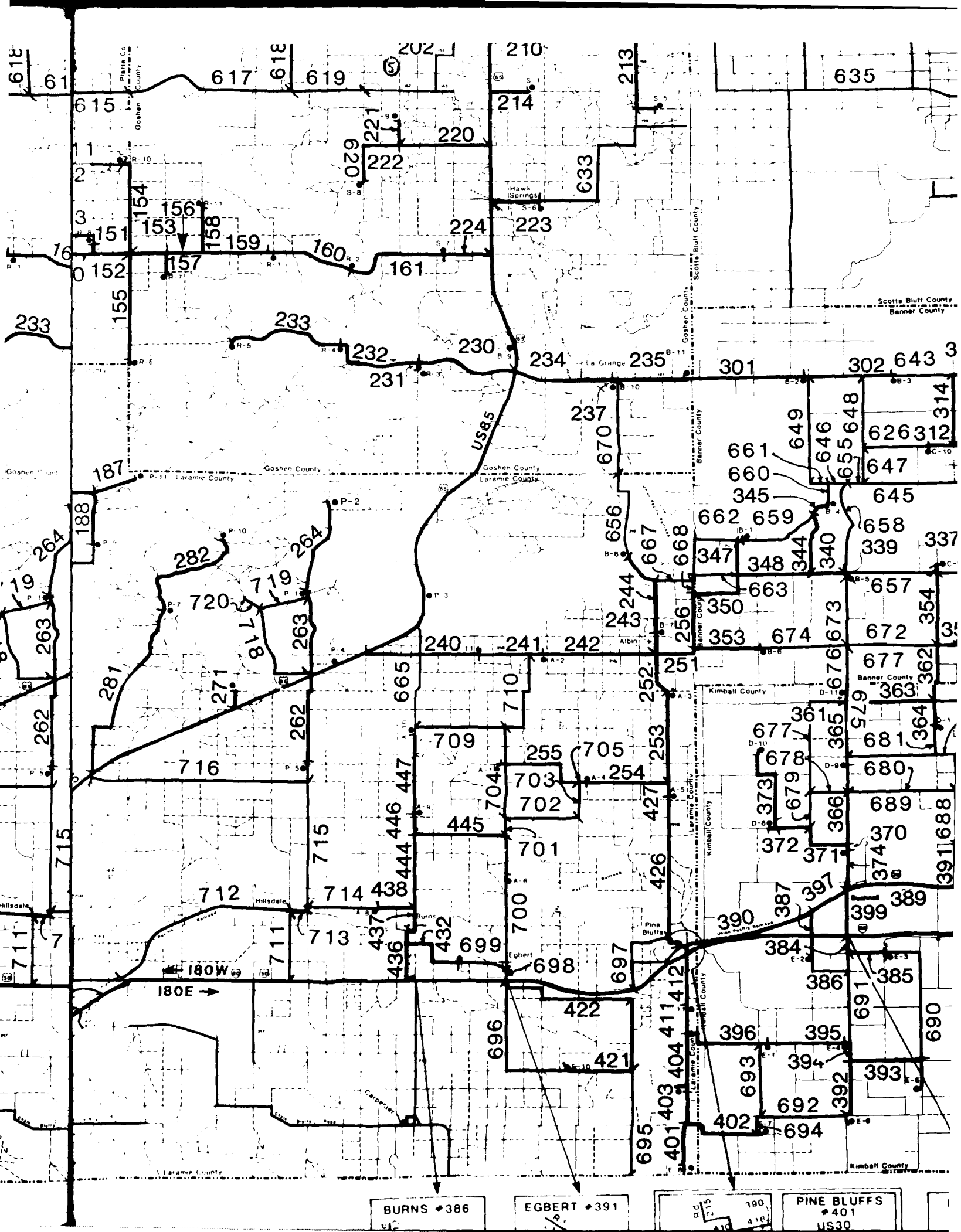


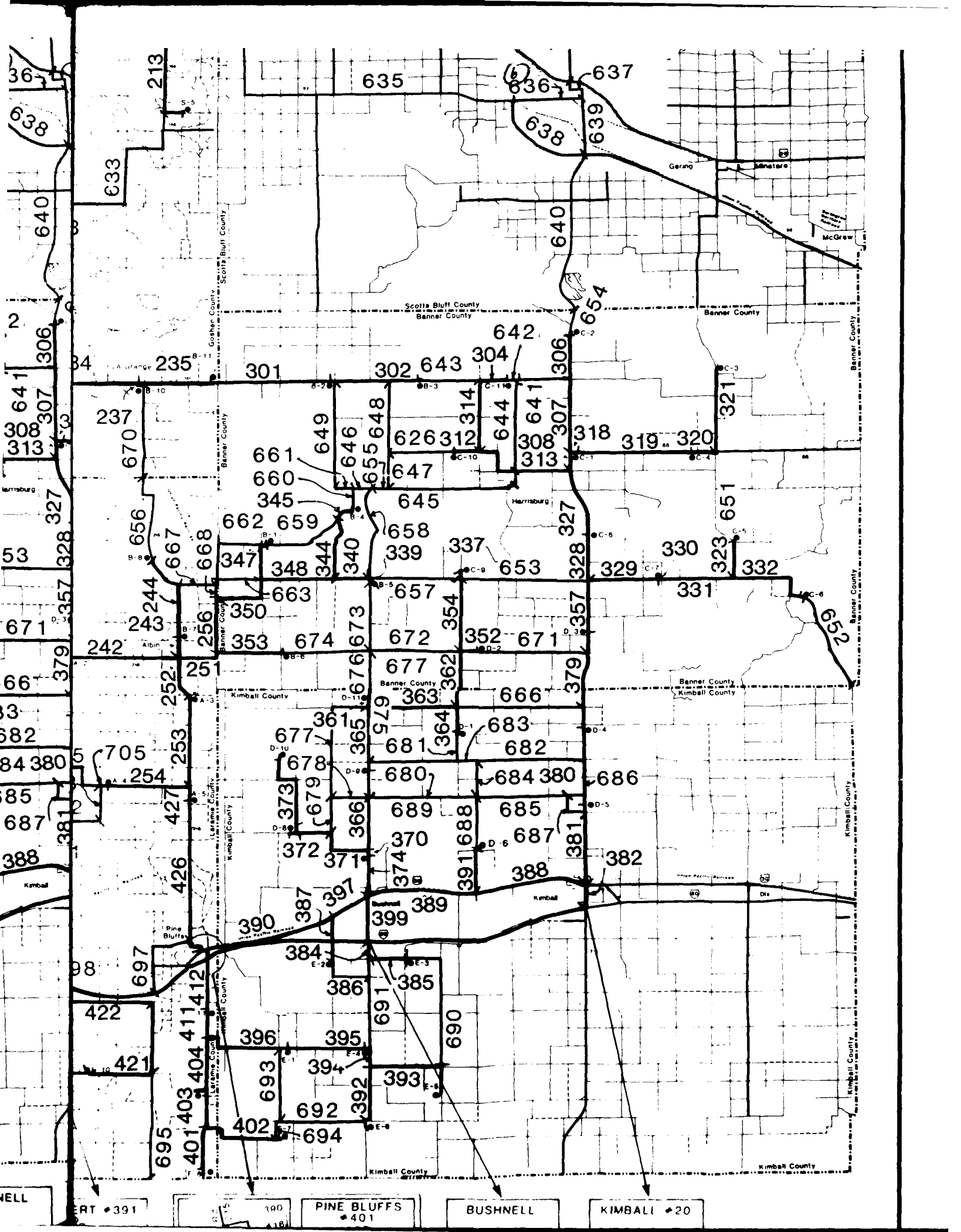
Detail of Hawk Springs

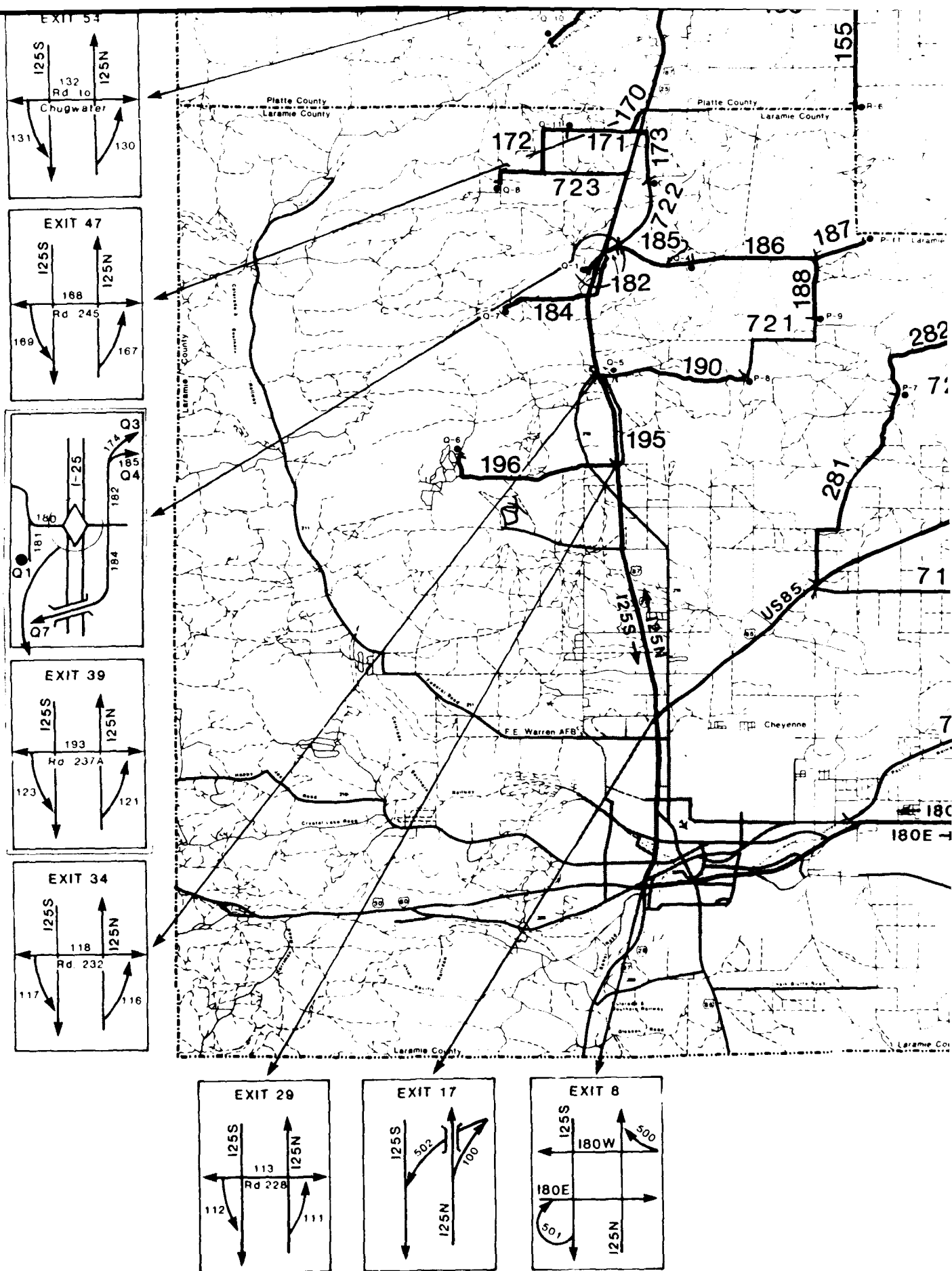
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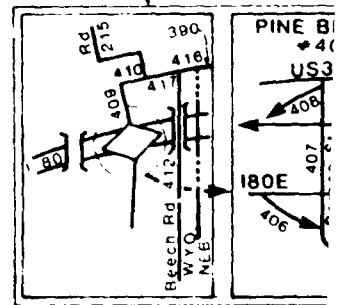
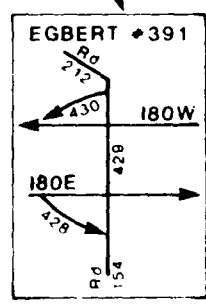
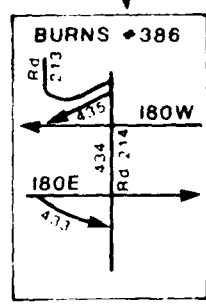
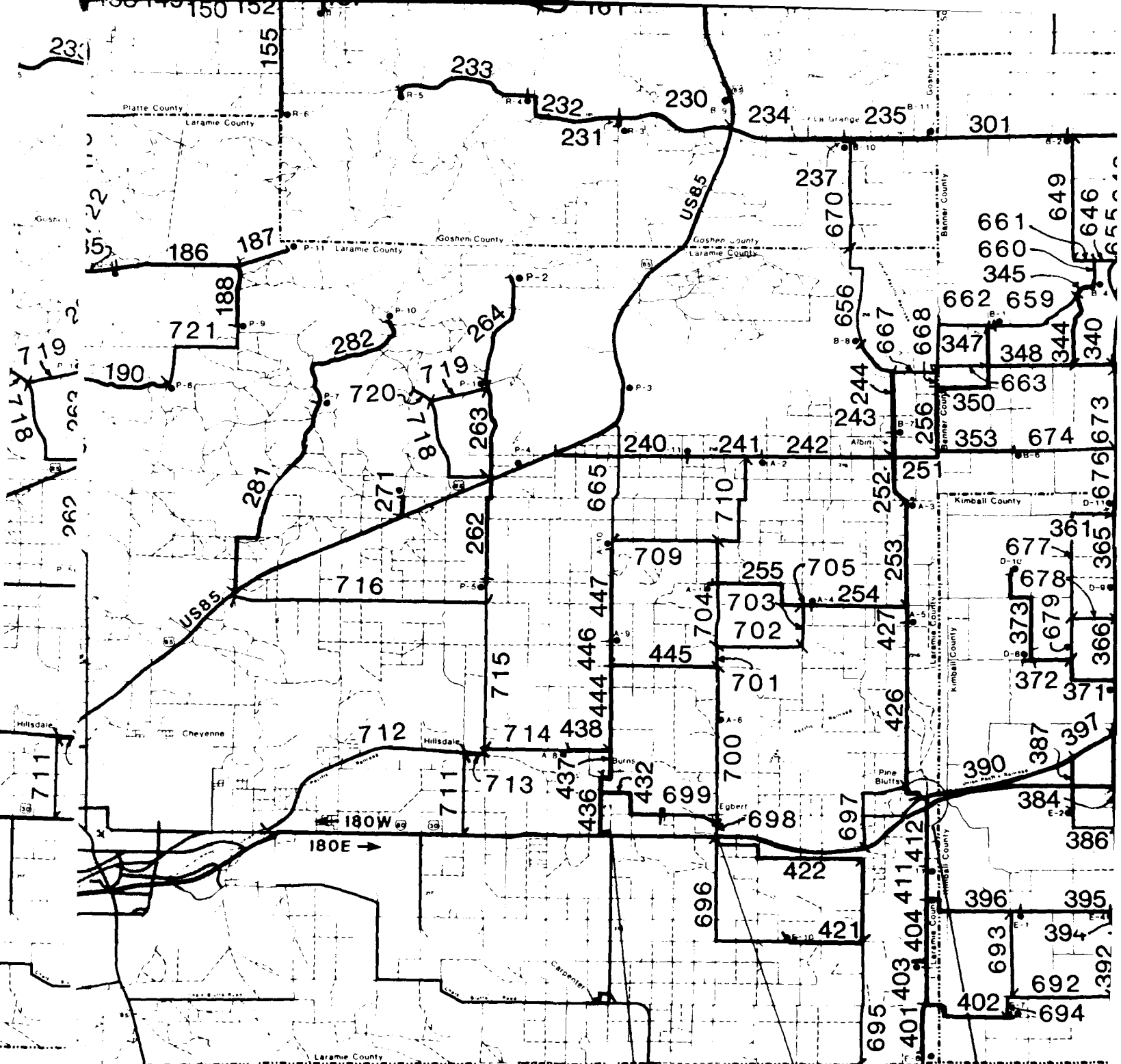








TRANSPORTER ERECTOR ROUTES AND ADDITIONAL INVENTORIED PROJECT-RE



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ENTORIED PROJECT-RELATED ROADS

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